The Muscogee Nation News

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Election intends to remove feds from tribal Constitutional amendment process

OKMULGEE — In a special election being held April 19 Muscogee (Creek) tribal voters will decide if the Secretary of the Interior will be removed from the tribal Constitutional amendment process.

In December the tribal Council approved National Council Act 02-153 — which calls for a referendum on the proposed amendment of the tribal Constitution to abolish federal approval of Constitutional amendments — by two-thirds affirmative vote as required by the tribal Constitution. Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver signed NCA 02-153 into law on Dec. 27, 2002.

Special election

- Election board office mail out of absentee ballot request forms: **Feb. 5**
- Absentee registration and ballot request form return deadline: **March 27**
- Election board office mail out of absentee ballots: **March 31**
- Precinct registration deadline: **April 9**
- In order to be counted, absentee ballots must be in election board post office box by: **April 19**
- Special election date: **April 19**

see **AMENDMENT**..., page 10

Kayla Shields — 2003 Okmulgee baby new year

Kayla Michelle Shields, the daughter of tribal citizen Shawn Tyndall of Okmulgee, was born at 3:52 p.m., Jan. 1 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital. Shields weighed in at 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 19 and three fourths inches in length.

The baby is also the daughter of Eric Shields of Okmulgee.

She belongs to the Deer Clan and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

Her maternal grandparents are Sharon Chalakee of Okmulgee and Horace Tyndall of Macy, Neb.

Paternal grandparents are Jack and May Shields of Acoma, N.M.

photo by Stephanie Berryhill

American Indians say government has cheated them out of billions

reprinted from The New York Times

WASHINGTON — More than 300,000 American Indians gave a federal judge a detailed court filing [on Jan. 6] based on private historical records asserting that the government had cheated them out of as much as $137.2 billion over the last 115 years.

The court action marked a significant turn in the largest class-action suit ever filed by Indians against the federal government and showed just what kind of sums are at stake.

For generations Indians have complained that the federal government has lost or stolen millions of dollars earned on tribal lands. And for decade after decade the government has ignored or disputed those contentions while failing to offer detailed accounts of how much money has been raised from oil and mineral, timber and grazing leases, proceeds of which go into a trust fund for the Indians' benefit.

The conflict — dating from 1887 — escalated into a lawsuit that the Indians filed against the Department of the Interior in June 1996. In the six years since, the standoff has become ever more bitter, documents have been destroyed and interior and Treasury

see **CHEATED**..., page 10

Second chief announces intent to enter race for office of principal chief

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Second Chief A.D. Ellis recently announced his intent to run for the office of principal chief upon entering his twelfth year of tribal office.

Ellis, who is serving his twelfth consecutive year as a tribal official, was elected as an Okmulgee District Representative to the National Council in 1992.

In 1999 Ellis was elected second chief and is serving the last year of a four-year term. He is the chair of the Nation's trade and commerce authority and

see **CHIEF'S RACE**..., page 10

November District Court filings

Civil actions:

- Stephanie Edmerson vs. Douglas Hemphill
- Lucinda Eslick vs. Lewis Fleming

Protective orders:

- Felicia Washington vs. Shawn Tabbytite and Bernadine Bernard
- Greg Anderson et al vs. Phillip Warrior
- Kristi Doyle vs. Phillip Warrior
- Christy Demmitt Looney vs. Brian Looney
- Samara Noriega vs. Raymond Noriega

Divorce:

- Stephen Osceola vs. Dawn Osceola
- Ada Baldridge vs. Daryl Bassett
- Lucinda Eslick vs. Joseph Eslick
- Eagledale King vs. Melanie Edwards

Criminal-misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Melinda Buckley

— count 1: larceny
— count 2: larceny

Criminal-felonies:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Eddie David Sugar

— count 1: theft of automobile

December District Court filings

Civil actions:

- In the matter of: Linda Sulphur Johnson
- In the matter of: Jacob Tyler H. Makinson
- In the matter of: Madison Paige Makinson
- Country Investment, Inc. vs. LaDonna Beach
- Royal Finance Corp. vs. Terry Thompson

Protective orders:

- Lynelle Suilliams vs. James Suilliams Sr.
- Regina Morgan vs. Ryan Buckley
- April Taylor vs. Dave Donaldson
- April Taylor vs. Tim Shirley

Divorce:

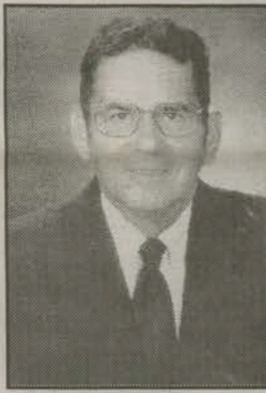
- Gena Yargee vs. James Toles
- Donna S. Walkingstick vs. Thomas E. Beck
- Marcus Hampton vs. Peggy Hampton
- Stephanie Eager vs. Clinton Eager

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Two thousand and three is a new year with many new things to look forward to.

In early January Chief **Beaver** and myself attended the inauguration of Oklahoma Gov. **Brad Henry**. For the first time in Oklahoma history, tribal leaders from all nations in Oklahoma were invited. As most people know, the Indian vote was probably a deciding factor in electing Gov. **Henry**. Oklahoma Indians were initially rallied to vote by Gubernatorial candidate **Kelly Haney** — a Seminole/Muscogee Indian — and many tribes continued to recruit new voters to support candidates who supported our causes. Hopefully this new governor will support our interest in a class III gaming compact with the state. Our tribal citizens use public schools, public roads, and are among the general Oklahoma populace. It is only fair that we help — as we always have — while improving the quality of life for our people. Many tribes have management contracts with outside people who manage and operate their casinos. In reality these types of operations do put money in non-Indians pockets. Muscogee Creeks operate all our casinos without any outside management. We operate with Muscogee people for Muscogee people. All profits go to our tribal general and permanent funds to fund client services and all programs which need tribal funding.



People say we tribes should pay the same tax on cigarettes as state convenience store chains Quik Trip and Git-N-Go. I challenge anyone to trace profits earned by convenience stores — it always goes to someone's pocket. Our profits are used on tribal citizens for necessary needs and never goes in anyone's pocket. Besides, the more of our people we provide for, the less the state of Oklahoma has to care for. Let the people who knock Indian tribes about everything just travel off of state highway 16 — nine miles north Bixby Road. This is a beautiful, new highway which is probably 99 percent trafficked — throughout out the work week — by non-Indians going to work in Tulsa. Muscogee Nation paid about $1 million to build this road. Don't tell me that we don't pay for anything, because I can show critics hundreds of more things which are funded because of Indians — that non-Indians benefit from as well.

I predict 2003 will be the best year that the Muscogee Nation has had in a very long time. Construction is in full force with a new living center for elders going up; a new food distribution warehouse will also be built in the summer. I believe jobs and revenue will continue upward in a dramatic fashion. I only wish we could and will diversify into jobs and industry outside of gaming and cigarettes. Both have been very good to us and will continue to be, but I would like to see high tech jobs and industrial and educational opportunities flourish — especially south of U.S. Interstate 40; an area where this type of industry is does not exist.

I would like to welcome new Creek Nation Housing Authority Executive Director **Robert Jack** to the Muscogee Nation. Good luck Mr. Jack.

Tax preparation services will be available through Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc.; on March 18 O.I.L.S. Inc. will setup in the mound building to offer this service. Also, our free legal clinic is swamped with requests. We have a few attorneys and hundreds of requests. These are a few new programs to help our citizens that lack the expertise or funds to do this themselves.

I always like to give credit where credit is due. Our National Council and administration must work together to make these things come true. We don't always agree, but we are here for the same purpose and that purpose to serve our Muscogee people. I can think of nothing more satisfying that the work we are doing.

I have been asked if I write "Second Opinion." I assure everyone that what I write and what I say is entirely my own. This article takes me about 20 minutes to write and I never seem to write it until the deadline is tomorrow morning. I've probably missed some highlights of last month, but I'll never have room for everything.

Good health to everyone and love and support your family and friends. *Mvto.*

Commentary

Secretary Norton — unfit to be a trustee

by Elouise Cobell

U.S District Court Judge Royce C. Lamberth's historic decision on Sept. 17, 2002, held Secretary Gale Norton along with Assistant Secretary Neal McCaleb in contempt of court for (1) engaging in litigation misconduct by failing to comply with the Court's Order of Dec. 21, 1999, to initiate a Historical Accounting Project; (2) committing a fraud on the Court by concealing the Department's true actions regarding the Historical Accounting Project during the period from March 2000, until January 2001; (3) committing a fraud on the Court by failing to disclose the true status of the TAAMS subproject between September 1999 and Dec. 21, 1999; (4) committing a fraud on the Court by filing false and misleading quarterly status reports starting in March 2000, regarding TAAMS and BIA Data Cleanup; and, (5) committing a fraud on the Court by making false and misleading representations starting in March 2000, regarding computer security of IIM trust data.

Judge Lamberth stated, "The agency (Department of

please see **UNFIT**..., page 5

The Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

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Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the following sessions: June 29 regular session; July 23 special session; July 27 quarterly session; Aug. 8 extraordinary session; and Aug. 24 regular session.

June 29 regular session

Absent were: **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District; **Thomas Yahola**; Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**; Tulsa District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• approved as amended (14-5-0) Tribal Resolution 02-022, authorizing the principal chief to enter into a financing agreement with Bank One to fund the construction of an office building in Muskogee;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa;

voting no were: **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) TR 02-036, recognizing the Northern California Muscogee (Creek) Association as a body of persons that have joined together for the purpose of maintaining and preserving the Muscogee (Creek) culture and traditions;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) TR 02-037, confirming the renomination of **Angela Diane Barnett Meeker** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) TR 02-038, confirming the nomination of **Robert Walker** to serve as a member of the board of directors of the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise;

• approved unanimously as amended (19-0-0) TR 02-040, approving a priority service plan for the Bureau of Indian Affairs financial assistance programs administered by the social services department;

• approved (13-5-1) TR 02-041, confirming the nomination of Jason W. Nichols to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

abstaining was **Nichols**, Okmulgee;

• approved (18-0-1) TR 02-043, confirming the nomination of **Clarence Seifried Wind** to serve as a supreme court justice of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

abstaining was **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) TR 02-044, approving the selection of a contractor for lead paint abatement of one privately-owned housing unit of the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma and authorizing the housing authority to execute a contract for such abatement;

• approved (18-1-0) TR 02-046, authorizing the principal chief to execute a supplemental amendment to the agreement with B and B Fireworks for the operation of temporary fireworks sales facilities on tribal land;

voting no was **Fields**, Tukvpvtce District;

• return to committee as amended (16-3-0) National Council Resolution 02-006, adopting the rules of procedures of the National Council;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved as amended (15-4-0) NCR 02-007, authorizing the speaker to execute a special services attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and Hobbs, Straus, Dean, & Walker, L.L.P.;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) National Council Act 02-055, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Services Department Self-Governance Program;

• approved (16-3-0) NCA 02-064, appropriating funds for the payment of interest on a loan with Bank One;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-094, amending NCA 95-127 §103, as amended by NCA 97-104, as amended by NCA 98-114, to appropriate funds to be included in the comprehensive annual budget;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-095, authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the direct assistance program for the remainder of fiscal year 2002;

• approved (15-4-0) NCA 02-096, amending NCA 92-48 §103 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating additional operating funds for the office of the principal chief, establishing a full time office of the controller, social services client services and higher education clients services, correction to FY-92 comprehensive budget, additional funds for real property and facilities, and requesting return of revolving fund from Tulsa Creek Nation Bingo);

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; and **Peters**, Okmulgee;

• approved unanimously (18-0-0) NCA 02-099, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Service Department to properly expend funds in the 1999 GAP grant;

The record reflects that Rep. **Jackson**, Okfuskee, was excused from the meeting;

• approved unanimously (18-0-0) NCA 02-100, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Services Department to more efficiently apply the remaining funds of the 2000 Native American Housing And Self Determination Act budget;

• approved unanimously (18-0-0) NCA 02-102, amending NCA 95-95, §103 (C) 6 and (D) 7 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing guidelines and authorizing tribal funds for scholarships to tribal citizens and repealing NCA 97-70 and NCA 89-06);

• approved unanimously (18-0-0) NCA 02-104, authorizing the expenditure of funds from Eufaula Dormitory investment account to upgrade the learning resource center and the administrative management information systems at Eufaula Dormitory;

• approved (10-8-0) NCA 02-106, a special appropriation to financially assist in the orthodontic treatment of a Muscogee (Creek) citizen;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Kelley**, Tulsa;

• returned to committee

— (16-2-0) NCA 02-107, amending NCA 99-10, §110 (B) and (C) (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation creating a business enterprise of the Muscogee Nation, establishing a board of directors of the enterprise and defining the purpose and powers of the enterprise and defining the purpose and powers of the enterprise and its board of directors) and

— NCA 02-108, amending NCA 99-22, §110 (B) and (C) (a bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation creating the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority, establishing a board of trustees of the authority and defining the purpose and powers of the authority and its board of trustees);

voting no were: **Lewis**, Okmulgee and **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and

• approved (17-0-0) NCA 02-111, authorizing a special appropriation to the election board to conduct a special election on Aug. 17, 2002.

Rep. **Johnson** did not vote.

July 23 special session

Absent was **Johnson,** Okmulgee.

Speaker **Gouge**, McIntosh, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• failed (11-12-1) NCA 02-110, authorizing a special appropriation for **Jon Mark Tiger** to exhibit Creek culture to the German people in Germany;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• failed (4-20-0) NCR 02-126, authorizing a special appropriation to assist a Muscogee (Creek) student selected as UCA all star cheerleader;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner.

July 27 quarterly session

Absent was Speaker **Gouge**, McIntosh District

Second Speaker **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• approved (23-1-0) TR 02-031, confirming the nomination of Gloria Bezzell as the senior services department manager of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no was **Johnson**, Okmulgee;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) TR 02-042, approving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System compact agreement with Indian Health Services;

• approved unanimously (24-0-0) TR 02-048, confirming the renomination of **William Buck** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

• approved unanimously as amended (24-0-0) TR 02-051, approving the selection of contractors for total rehabilitation of five privately-owned homes;

• failed (5-18-1) TR 02-052, confirming the nomination of **James McGirt** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa;

see **COUNCIL**..., page 11

Editor's note: Reports derived from official Muscogee National Council regular, quarterly, special, and extraordinary meeting minutes are published upon availability. At press time, official minutes were unavailable for the Jan. 25 quarterly session. Minutes were available for the following sessions: May 4 quarterly; May 18 regular; Sept. 24 special; Sept. 28 regular; Oct. 15 special; Oct. 26 quarterly; Nov. 23 regular; Dec. 17 special and Dec. 21 regular. Because of space limitations, these minuted will be published in the February and March issues of "The Muscogee Nation News."

Muscogee bingo listed among top ten nationally

ST. PAUL, Minn. — In December "Gaming Products and Services Magazine" named Creek Nation Muscogee Bingo as "Bingo Manager's Top Ten Bingo Halls of 2002."

The monthly publication, written for the management of gaming establishments, features coverage of gaming products.

"Creek Nation Muscogee Bingo has established a reputation as a leader in keeping up to date with the latest equipment and technology. Creek Nation was the first bingo hall in the country to provide its customers with multiple vendor electronic download capability...," according to "Gaming Products and Services Magazine."

It also lauded management for continually improving the facility as well as greeting customers and being visible during sessions.

"I believe this award that we received is mainly due to our customer service," said General Manager Farrell Kaaihue, "our staff really tries to take care of our customers."

Its selection is also credited to its a "first rate" VIP program. Although competing with class III gaming in nearby states, through its VIP program, promotions and new games, management has continued to increase the profits for the facility and the tribe.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Creek Nation Muscogee Bingo General Manager Farrell Kaaihue, center, is pictured with left to right, are Muskogee bingo managers: Christi Hinds, operations; Bess Warren, assistant operations; , Rhonda Eastwood, human relations; and Brenda Fields, assistant operations.

Kaaihue has been the facility manager for seven of the nine years that it has been open. The 22,500 foot square facility seats 850 and is equipped with 400 casino machines and includes a general bingo playing area. His staff consists of 135, including seven assistant managers.

Food distribution sites, times, and dates listed

OKMULGEE — The following lists Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Distribution site locations and dates for March.

Times for the distribution of food are from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. unless otherwise listed.

New and emergency applicants may receive food from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Okmulgee warehouse located at 1010 E. Eufaula.

Recipients that missed distribution at their regularly scheduled site may retrieve food at the Okmulgee warehouse; this arrangement requires that appointments be made by calling (918) 756-3467; or 1 (800) 482-1979, extension 400.

The Okmulgee warehouse is closed on the last business day of each month — March 31.

The center locations and distribution dates are:

- **Koweta Indian Community Center** — one-fourth of a mile north of stateway 51 on Ben Lumpkin Road and one-eighth of a mile east, 8:30 to 11 a.m, March 4 and 18;
- **Glenpool Indian Community Center** — one block east of state highway 75 and 141st street, March 5;
- **Bristow Indian Community Center** — 121 W. Lincoln, March 6;
- **Eufaula Indian Community Center** — 800 Forest Ave., March 11 and 25;
- **Sapulpa Indian Community Center** — 1020 N. Brown St., March 12;
- **Checotah Indian Community Center** — 830 N. Broadway, March 13 and 27;
- **Wetumka Indian Community Center** — 608 N. Creek, March 14;
- **Okemah Indian Community Center** — 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St., March 19;
- **Holdenville Indian Community Center** — 224 E. Poplar, March 20;
- **Dustin Indian Community Center** — corner of Sparks and Broadway, fourth Friday,
- **Weleetka Indian Community Center** — 603 S. Chickasaw, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., March 14; and
- **Okmulgee food distribution center** — 1010 E. Eufaula, 9 a.m to 3 p.m., March 3 and 17.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in: Eufaula; Holdenville; Okemah; and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., March 4;
- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., March 4 and 18;
- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., March 5 and 19;
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., March 6 and 20; and
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., March 6 and 20.

Tribe now offers caregiver support services

OKMULGEE — Caregiver support services are now available to Native Americans living within Muscogee (Creek) Nation jurisdictional boundaries through the tribal Native American Caregiver Support Program.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health Administration Native American Caregiver Support Program provides caregiving training and respite services with the intent to improve the quality of life to family and community members.

To eligible for services, individuals must:

- be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe, be at least 18 years of age, and reside within Muscogee Nation jurisdictional boundaries;
- meet the definition of a caregiver — anyone who provides care and/or support services for an individual who, for reasons of illness or frailty, cannot manage independently without assistance;
- be caring for a Native American elder, age 55 or older, who is unable to perform at least two activities of daily living — dressing, bathing, eating, etc. — without substantial human assistance or who requires substantial supervision because of a cognitive or other mental disorder; or
- be an elder Native American grandparent or relative, over the age of 55, who resides with and cares for a child 18 years of age or younger.

The program provides assistance in the areas of: information and referral; assistance with access to services; support groups/counseling; education/training; resource information; respite care; and supplemental services.

For more information, contact Coordinator Loretta Wind Jumper, at: (918) 758-2727; (918) 756-3334; or 1 (800) 782-8291.

"Replenishing the Caregiver" offers services

STILLWATER — "Replenishing the Caregiver" is a comprehensive, Oklahoma State University-monitored program designed to help provide new information to caregivers, particularly those caring for older adults.

This multi-phased project establishes caregiver training and service in 15 different counties: Okfuskee; Seminole; Hughes; Lincoln; Pawnee; Payne; Pottawatomie; Beaver; Cimarron; Ellis; Dewey; Harper; Texas; Woods; and Woodward. Free services offered include: respite care or congregate care, when appropriate, to allow caregivers to attend training; in-home training; caregiver support groups; a fully stocked resource library; and telephone support.

For more information, call 1 (866) 647-6769.

Legal services offering free tax services

OKMULGEE — Free tax services will be available to low income Native Americans from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., on March 18 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Capitol Complex Mound Building.

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc. will prepare federal and state tax returns professionally and electronically file at no cost.

In order to have taxes filed, bring: W-2 Wage and Tax Statement forms; 1099 forms; information for Child and Dependent Care Expenses form; driver license or photo identification; Social Security cards (copies are acceptable); and any other documents that may be necessary to prepare taxes. Copies of your 2001 tax returns are helpful, but not required. Individuals that would like refunds deposited into checking or saving accounts will need to provide bank routing and account numbers.

Farm Service Agency accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee County Farm Service Agency has began accepting applications for its livestock compensation program.

Producers in Okmulgee County are eligible for this program because of the drought designation for the summer of 2001.

In order to complete an application producers will need to visit the office and report the number of cattle, buffalo, sheep, or goats owned, for at least 90 days, or cash leased as of June 1, 2002. As a general rule, cattle that were less than 500 pounds and horses, pigs, chickens, or animals used for recreation do not qualify. Producers must certify that they receive less than $2.5 million in gross annual revenue.

For more information, contact the Okmulgee County Farm Service agency at: 719 E 8th Street, Suite D, in Okmulgee; or call (918) 756-0850.

Program seeks new and used cell phone donations

ARDMORE — "Save a Life, Give a Phone" is encouraging the donation of new, used, or broken cellular phones

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Notices

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to its program.

The program provides cellular phones to battered women's organizations, the elderly, and the disabled for emergency use. A donation box is located at the reception desk in the main lobby of the Muscogee Nation Solomon McCombs Executive Office (main) Building on the tribal capitol complex in Okmulgee. All donations are tax deductible. Qualified individuals who need emergency phones may also contact the program to request phones. For more information, call Gene Flanagan at (580) 277-0085.

California Mvskokvlke holding meeting

COMMERCE, Calif. — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association is holding their next meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Feb. 22.

The meeting will be held at Southern California Indian Center located at 6055 E. Washington Blvd.

Mvskokvlke living in the state, as well as those just visiting, are encouraged to attend the meeting.

Native Hoops basketball tournament being held

NORMAN — Native Hoops All Indian Women and Men's Basketball Tournament is being held March 15 and 16.

It will be held at the Norman Optimist Club — from Interstate 35, exit on Robinson and drive east, turn north on Berry, and east at the stop sign. The club is located near the old airport hanger.

The $125 entry fee is due on March 12. Prizes are: first place, jackets; second place, sweat shirts; and third place, t-shirts. All-tournament team and most valuable players will be awarded also.

For more information, contact Teola Durant at (405) 325-1522 or (405) 202-7627.

Tribal foster children attend "The Nutcracker"

TULSA — Twenty-five Muscogee (Creek) foster children participated in "Hope for the Holidays" through their attendance at Tulsa Ballet Company's presentation of "The Nutcracker" in December.

Muscogee Nation Children and Family Services Administration clients were afforded the opportunity to participate in "Hope for the Holidays" through the financial support of Oklahoma Natural Gas and other event sponsors. The tribal children and family services administration provides services to abused and neglected Muscogee (Creek) children. Currently, over 50 children are in tribal custody and in foster care placement.

For the third consecutive year, 1,800 clients of participating agencies, that work to help members of the community with special needs, attended the ballet. Prior to the dress-rehearsal performance, those attending were provided with refreshments, entertainment by Sweet Adelines Ribbon Street Choir, and a visit from a multitude of costumed holiday characters.

In addition to ONG, sponsors for "Hope for the Holidays" 2002 include: Henry Zarrow; Maxine and Jack Zarrow Foundation; Oxley Foundation; Margaret and Jack Neely; Mervyn's; and Hiland dairy.

Unfit

continued from page 2

Interior) has indisputably proven to the Court, Congress, and the individual Indian beneficiaries that it is either unwilling or unable to administer competently the IIM trust. Worse yet, the department has now undeniably shown that it can no longer be trusted to state accurately the status of its trust reform efforts. In short, there is no longer any doubt that the Secretary of Interior has been and continues to be an unfit trustee delegate for the United States."

Characteristically, the Bush Administration now seeks to enact legislation to pay for the private attorneys representing government officials who have perpetrated these malfeasances and aided and abetted the Secretary in the commission of these frauds. Yes, this money will come out of the pockets of taxpayers and individual Indian trust beneficiaries most victimized by this misconduct.

What happens next? Although the court refrained from appointing a receiver at the time of the September 17th ruling, Judge Lamberth made it clear he has the authority to appoint one if his orders are not followed. This is an important victory for Indian beneficiaries.

The court has scheduled a Phase 1.5 trial to address reform of the IIM trust and to move forward an historical accounting. This require[d] the Interior to file, [on] Jan. 6, 2003, a plan to specify how it will meet its fiduciary obligations owed to the IIM trust beneficiaries.

The court also gave permission to the plaintiffs to file...plans of our own. We [filed plans] by the January 2003 deadline in anticipation of the Phase 1.5 trial to begin May 1, 2003. We also look forward to a Phase II Trial date to correct the trust account balances.

It's been over six years since we filed the case, but we are winning every step of way. We will continue to fight in order to achieve accountability for American Indians and we will prevail.

Tribe funds roads in Hughes, McIntosh, Okmulgee counties

OKMULGEE — In December Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal officials and county commissioners from three counties met to sign agreements for funding the construction of roads — totalling $4.2 million — in Hughes, McIntosh, and Okmulgee counties.

In Hughes County funding will help construct eight and one half miles of Calvin North Road, beginning at the South Canadian River Bridge, north of Calvin. In McIntosh County funding will help construct Stidham Road beginning at state highway nine and extending north six miles and Arbeka Road beginning at state highway nine and extending north 9.6 miles. Funding in Okmulgee County will help construct seven miles of Arbeka Road.

There are 7,400 miles of county roads within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Muscogee Nation. Areas highly populated by American Indians is the first criteria for funding road construction, said Jack Chaney, an engineer for the tribal federal roads construction program. The number of Indian churches and cemeteries in an area factors in as well, said Chaney.

photo by Denise Jacobs

Among tribal and county officials present to sign agreements for funding the construction of roads — totalling $4.2 million — in three counties were: Okmulgee County Commissioners James Connors and Jim Henson; Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs Curtis Hicks; tribal Transportation Planner Ben Chaney; tribal Federal Roads Engineer Jack Chaney; tribal Executive Director William Freeman; and Okmulgee County Commissioner Roger Ballard.

Tafvmpece (wild onion) time

Wewoka United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Feb. 22
Where: Holdenville Indian Community Center
Cost: all-you-can-eat — $7 for adults and $3.50 for children ages 12 and under
Location: 224 E. Poplar

Salt Creek United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 1
Where: Holdenville Indian Community Center
Cost: all-you-can-eat — $7 for adults and $3.50 for children ages 12 and under
Location: 224 E. Poplar

Tulsa Creek Indian Community
When: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 8
Where: Tulsa Indian Community Center
Cost: $7 for adults; $3 for children ages eight and under
Location: 8611 S. Union (81st Street and Union Avenue)

Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association
When: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 8
Where: Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association
Cost: all-you-can-eat — $5
Location: 543 S.E. 29th St.

Big Cussetah United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 15
Where: Big Cussetah United Methodist Church
Cost: all-you-can-eat and takeout — $10; one plate — $7 for adults and $3 for children ages 10 and under
Location: from Okmulgee drive three miles east on U.S. Highway 62 and three and one half miles south on Prarie Bell Road

Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 15
Where: Haikey Chapel United Methodist Church
Cost: $7 for adults and $3.50 for children ages 11 and under
Location: 8500 E. 101st St., Tulsa (one half of a mile east of Memorial Drive on 101st Street)

Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church
When: noon to 5 p.m., March 22
Where: Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church
Cost: $6
Location: south of Okemah on state highway 27

Springfield United Methodist Church
When: 11 a.m. until they run out, April 12
Where: Springfield United Methodist Church
Cost: all-you-can-eat — $6 for adults and $3 for children ages 12 and under
Location: from Okemah drive two miles south on state highway 27, four miles east, and two miles south

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Quarterly Financial Statement

PROGRAMS	BUDGETS	EXPENDED	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	263,546.00	2,338.00	0.00	261,208.00
TREASURY	27,340.00	22,646.00	0.00	4,694.00
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	57,709.00	0.00	0.00	57,709.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	1,826,643.00	1,389,188.00	77,876.00	359,579.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	2,329,805.00	1,819,583.00	5,772.00	504,450.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	2,904,272.00	2,670,763.00	2,535.00	230,974.00
CONSUMER LOANS	0.00	9,990.00	0.00	(9,990.00)
CREEK NATION BINGO	6,768,731.00	5,401,416.00	5,061.00	1,362,254.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	472,646.00	311,070.00	0.00	161,576.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	0.00	98,426.00	0.00	(98,426.00)
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	1,925.00	1,327.00	0.00	598.00
HOLDENVILLE COMMUNITY	10,000.00	48,728.00	0.00	(38,728.00)
A.G. EDWARDS	0.00	2,988.00	0.00	(2,988.00)
CODIFICATION	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
4-H CLUB	8,000.00	2,567.00	0.00	5,433.00
READING IS FUNDAMENTAL	3,477.00	1,582.00	1,890.00	5.00
TRIBAL BUDGET	318,375.00	24,190.00	0.00	294,185.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC.	2,160.00	2,156.00	0.00	4.00
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	1,500.00	252.00	0.00	1,248.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	2,283,723.00	2,104,197.00	4,942.00	174,584.00
HEALTH EDUCATION	43,180.00	32,385.00	0.00	10,795.00
WIA-TITLE I	55,932.00	54,918.00	1,013.00	1.00
SUMMER YOUTH '00	6,404.00	6,404.00	0.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE I '01	616,016.00	610,817.00	0.00	5,199.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '01	187,881.00	175,400.00	0.00	12,481.00
WIA-TITLE I '02	668,911.00	120,070.00	523.00	548,318.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '02	553,557.00	465,362.00	0.00	88,195.00
WELFARE TO WORK	57,208.00	50,798.00	0.00	6,410.00
JTPA TITLE IV-A	48,657.00	48,657.00	0.00	0.00
SUMMER YOUTH '99	5,158.00	5,158.00	0.00	0.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	40,392.00	38,736.00	0.00	1,656.00
HUD-MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	446,906.00	446,906.00	0.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '00	13,561,751.00	7,189,165.00	5,976.00	6,366,610.00
HUD-SAPULPA CLINIC	750,000.00	0.00	0.00	750,000.00
HUD-ROSS '01	239,873.00	143,642.00	0.00	96,231.00
HUD-NAHASDA '01	16,619,727.00	3,451,495.00	1,834.00	13,166,398.00
HUD-DRUG ELIMINATION	550,142.00	466,175.00	0.00	83,967.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	4,216,714.00	3,002,406.00	472,964.00	741,344.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	6,757,765.00	3,292,652.00	0.00	3,465,113.00
CCDBG '00	25,220.00	25,215.00	0.00	5.00
HEAD START '00	0.00	7,483.00	0.00	(7,483.00)
FAMILY VIOLENCE '00	25,486.00	445.00	0.00	25,041.00
LIHEAP '01	45,300.00	45,293.00	0.00	7.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '01	152,228.00	140,634.00	0.00	11,594.00
CCDBG - DISCRETIONARY	401,038.00	401,038.00	0.00	0.00
CCDBG - MANDATORY	498,012.00	158,279.00	22,370.00	317,363.00
HEADSTART '01	649,544.00	467,437.00	0.00	182,107.00
TITLE IV-B '01	169,881.00	152,942.00	0.00	16,939.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '01	255,044.00	226,702.00	0.00	28,342.00
LIHEAP '02	120,550.00	114,639.00	0.00	5,911.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '02	276,350.00	96,832.00	0.00	179,518.00
CCDBG-DISCRETIONARY '02	1,497,483.00	815,039.00	944.00	681,500.00
CCDBG-MANDATORY '02	2,510,213.00	1,668,442.00	10,720.00	831,051.00
HEAD START '02	2,020,319.00	1,485,044.00	26,612.00	508,663.00
TITLE IV-B '02	222,869.00	68,629.00	0.00	154,240.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '02	250,900.00	7,686.00	631.00	242,583.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '01	8,444.00	4,729.00	0.00	3,715.00

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending Sept. 30, 2002
Prepared by the controller's office

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending Sept. 30, 2002 discloses the budget, expenditures, encumbrances, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The budget figure represents the amount approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The encumbered amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The balances figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of Sept. 30, 2002.

Any questions reqarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller by calling (918) 756-8700 or 1(800) 482-1979, extension 250.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION '02	414,000.00	398,880.00	1,217.00	13,903.00
FEMA INCOME	100,242.00	100,242.00	0.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	41,000.00	23,110.00	0.00	17,890.00
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	414,276.00	263,850.00	399.00	150,027.00
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	114,500.00	107,329.00	0.00	7,171.00
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	65,660.00	59,500.00	0.00	6,160.00
ELECTION BD PROG INCOME	1,219.00	0.00	0.00	1,219.00
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	4,111.00	1,636.00	0.00	2,475.00
CITIZENSHIP BOARD	7,621.00	7,094.00	0.00	527.00
FOOD DIST. PROG. INCOME	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
LIGHTHORSE PROG. INCOME	3,600.00	0.00	0.00	3,600.00
PROVIDING OPP. WITH ALGEBRA	40,542.00	10,360.00	0.00	30,182.00
DOE-LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC	4,000.00	1,833.00	667.00	1,500.00
DOE-LIBRARY TECH GRANT	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	5,491,560.00	4,913,992.00	4,795.00	572,773.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '00	20,521.00	20,521.00	0.00	0.00
DOI-ENVIRN CLEAN-UP	24,750.00	16,272.00	0.00	8,478.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	620,637.00	359,373.00	3,970.00	257,294.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.'00	56,394.00	33,462.00	0.00	22,932.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '01	14,447.00	14,447.00	0.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '01	476,875.00	462,066.00	714.00	14,095.00
EUFAULA DORM '01	1,612,432.00	1,043,975.00	300.00	568,157.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.'01	78,052.00	0.00	0.00	78,052.00
LAMAR ROAD	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
IRR SPECIAL PLANNING	6,522.00	6,522.00	0.00	0.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
LITTLE CUSSETH CHURCH RD	158,962.00	1,573.00	0.00	157,389.00
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	650,000.00	251,494.00	345,709.00	52,797.00
THEWARLE CHURCH ROAD	250,000.00	61,311.00	141,117.00	47,572.00
PORTER ROAD	497,280.00	361,527.00	0.00	135,753.00
OLD BIXBY ROAD	917,202.00	113,490.00	698,941.00	104,771.00
SALEM ROAD	350,000.00	193,677.00	58,354.00	97,969.00
SKELLY/HASKELL ROAD	752,955.00	50,382.00	2,500.00	700,073.00
METHODIST CHURCH ROAD	195,000.00	2,666.00	185,000.00	7,334.00
HECTORVILLE ROAD	1,289,655.00	4,970.00	0.00	1,284,685.00
SUMMIT SOUTH ROAD	202,277.00	4,183.00	192,277.00	5,817.00
JOM-EARLY CHILDHOOD '02	13,512.00	7,927.00	162.00	5,423.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '02	962,232.00	499,640.00	2,065.00	460,527.00
EUFAULA DORM '02	719,900.00	0.00	0.00	719,900.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	3,751,439.00	506,375.00	48,000.00	3,197,064.00
EUFAULA DORM '97	88,639.00	88,639.00	0.00	0.00
EUFAULA DORM '98	882.00	882.00	0.00	0.00
EUFAULA DORM '99	142,071.00	107,337.00	8,426.00	26,308.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPRO '99	16,576.00	16,576.00	0.00	0.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	623,721.00	579,487.00	0.00	44,234.00
WATER QUALITY	8,267.00	8,063.00	0.00	204.00
TRIBAL RESOURCES (COPS)	1,262.00	670.00	0.00	592.00
VICTIMS ASSISTANCE	56,568.00	28,346.00	0.00	28,222.00
DRUG COURT '01	137,629.00	39,607.00	249.00	97,773.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	229,125.00	96,488.00	0.00	132,637.00
DRUG COURT '99	49,490.00	2,988.00	0.00	46,502.00
EPA	111,853.00	71,654.00	5,009.00	35,190.00
MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	2,052,071.00	1,302,955.00	4,112.00	745,004.00
TRAVEL PLAZA ENTERPRISE	590,500.00	590,500.00	0.00	0.00
MUSKOGEE OFFICE BLDG	4,888,495.00	3,915,614.00	855,853.00	117,028.00
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	4,000.00	(1,235.00)	0.00	5,235.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	541,130.00	476,389.00	0.00	64,741.00
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	0.00	9,031.00	0.00	(9,031.00)
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	817,027.00	515,088.00	0.00	301,939.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	2,674,386.00	1,889,115.00	402,710.00	382,561.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	107,212.00	69,351.00	0.00	37,861.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	73,000.00	68,081.00	0.00	4,919.00
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	0.00	2,032,747.00	0.00	(2,032,747.00)
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	0.00	4,650.00	0.00	(4,650.00)
TOTALS	**105,482,586.00**	**61,220,763.00**	**3,604,209.00**	**40,657,614.00**

Citizen earns master of science degree

ADA — Muscogee citizen Leslie Crow graduated from East Central University's Human Resources and Counseling program with a master of science degree in December.

Crow

While attending graduate school, Crow maintained a 3.9 grade point average and was an American Indian Graduate Center fellow. She was selected as a Spirit Award recipient by the Spirit of Sovereignty Board of Directors — funded by AIGC and the National Indian Gaming Association.

Crow said knowledge acquired through her master's degree has equipped her with the ability to do more work as mental health coordinator for programs offered by the John Crow IV Memorial Foundation. In 1995, her brother, John, was killed in an auto-pedestrian accident. In his memory, her parents formed the John Crow IV Memorial Foundation — a nonprofit organization that started by awarding scholarships to Native American athletes. She is also a foundation board member.

Crow said that she wants to commend and congratulate anyone who is working towards a college degree. "Native Americans are very under-represented in most professional areas. I strongly encourage those pursuing undergraduate degrees to continue their education at some point...education is very valuable and rewarding. At the risk of sounding like a cliché, if I can do it, anyone can do it."

Crow also serves in the following community leadership positions: Henryetta Johnson O'Malley Indian Education Committee, secretary/treasurer; Henryetta Parent Teacher Organization, secretary; Brownie Girl Scout Leader, cookie coordinator for Okmulgee County; and Girl Scout Association, delegate. She is a member of Henryetta Business and Professional Women and also serves as a Henryetta Little League assistant tee ball coach.

She is currently an intensive services therapist at Anne Moroney Youth Services in Okmulgee and is a licensed professional counselor candidate.

Crow resides in Henryetta with her husband., Mark Taylor, and their two children, Morgan and Zach.

She is the daughter of John and Shelly Crow.

Muscogee citizen named Indian woman of the year

TULSA — Ramona Mason has been selected as the Indian Woman of the Year 2003 by the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women.

Mason is of Muscogee and Scottish descent and resides in Tulsa where she is co-owner of Bear-Sky, Ltd., a Native American home-based company. She is a business woman, professional designer and tailor of tribal specific clothes, visual artist, lecturer, historian, and educational consultant.

Mason is a graduate of Tulsa's Will Rogers High School and the University of Tulsa. She is a former classroom teacher, a State of Oklahoma artist-in-residence, an educational specialist with the United States Department of Education Indian Education Programs, a board member of Eufaula Boarding School, and an Angel with the Gray Horse Chapter of the American War Mothers National Organization.

Documenting southeastern tribal dress and design for Muscogee women is the focus of her current project. She has completed extensive research at: the University of Alabama; Georgia State University; the Ocmulgee National Monument; the Cahokia Mound; the Emerald Mound; the Great Sun Mound of Natchez; the Spiro Mound; and mound sites throughout Louisiana and Indiana; the Smithsonian Institution; The Chicago Art Institute; and The National Museum of the American Indian. Mason has presented and displayed her Muscogee design buckskin dresses at the Museum of Atlanta in a special exhibit on southeastern Indians. Additionally, her other works of art have been exhibited at the Dallas Museum of Art and Heard Museum in Phoenix, as well as other sites throughout the U.S. and internationally.

Mason is a designated "Good Will Ambassador" by the State of Oklahoma, and has traveled to France, England, Spain, Scotland, Singapore, Mexico, Canada, Hawaii, the Caribbean Islands and throughout the continental U.S. sharing knowledge of Muscogee people. The Muscogee Nation has recognized her as an authority and spokesperson of its history and culture and sponsored her visitations to many universities, colleges, and special interest groups. She is a fluent speaker, reader, and writer of the Muscogee language. Her professional advice regarding the maintenance of native culture through language has been sought by various individuals and groups.

She has won numerous awards and received acknowledgments from many local organizations, businesses, and governments nationally and abroad. Although retired, volunteer work and personal research in Muscogee tribal history occupies much of her time.

On a personal level, Mason also enjoys spending time with family and friends, as well as attending local church activities and Native American Church services.

Births

Mattingly Amos

OKLAHOMA CITY — Mattingly Jae Amos was born July 24 to Billy and Tina Amos.

Amos

She weighed 7 pounds and was 19 and one half inches in length.

Her maternal grandparents are Ted and Debra Isham of Okmulgee.

Amos' maternal great-grandparents are Delores and the late Henry Factor of Oklahoma City and Billy and Christine Wolfe of Lamar and the late Clarence Isham, Lac Courte Orielles, Wis. Maternal great-great-grandparents are the late Cheparney and Martha Davis, Lamar, and the late Lillian Tiger.

Her paternal grandparents are Truman and Monetta Amos. Paternal great-grandparents are Josiah Amos and the late Ann May McKinney Amos, all of Oklahoma City.

Amos is of Muscogee, Seminole, and Choctaw descent and belongs to the Bear Clan. She has one sister, Larie.

Community

Traditional leaders Southern Indian Reunion

FORT MITCHELL, Ala. — Traditional leaders from Tallahassee Wvkokiye were among American Indians attending the Chattahoochee Southern Indian Reunion held in October.

Other Mvskokvlke, as well as members of the Euchee (Yuchi), Seminole and Choctaw tribes gathered to demonstrate games, traditional dances, and traditional arts.

Tallahassee Wvkokiye Tribal Town, a leading upper Mvskoke town is one of three daughter towns which descended from a common mother town known as Wvkokiye (linked to the legendary Coosa), according to Tallahassee Wvkokiye Heleshayv Sam Proctor. Wvkokiye's other daughter towns are Weogufkee and Tokpafka. Today, Tallahassee Wvkokiye Tribal Town is an active Mvskoke ceremonial ground and a primary source of cultural instruction for Mvskoke descendants living in Alabama, said Proctor.

Tallahassee Wvkokiye has participated in many festivals in the area and were represented by around 30 Mvskokvlke at the reunion. Among them were: Mekko David J. Proctor; Second Chief Sandy Watson; S. Proctor; Heneha David F. Proctor; Marcus Proctor; James Proctor, Banson Hicks; Thompson Gouge; Punkv Cule Monday; Tommy Ray Yargee; Chris Hill; Marcie Bell; Fallon Proctor; Jonna Blaylock; Connie Short; Amethyst Voice; Tanya Lowe; Joyce Voice; Connie Proctor; Shirley Gouge; Jerry Proctor; Pauline Proctor; Chris Blackburn; Alex Alvarat; Ben Andrews; Curtis Andrews; Christine Henneha, Nuyaka; and Earnestine Henneha, Nuyaka.

"We were honored and privileged to return to our ancestral lands — we enjoyed ourselves and we look forward to experiencing good fellowship again," said D. J. Proctor.

Mvskokvlke sing at Ocmulgee Monument

In September a group of eight Mvskokvlke attended the 11th Annual Ocmulgee Indian Celebration to sing the first Mvskoke hymns to be sung in the area since confederated Mvskokvlke removal from the area. The 11th celebration marked the first year that Mvskoke hymn singers were on the program. The group also performed at Rocky Face Church, Rocky Face, Ga. and at Tennessee Aquarium, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Members of the group are pictured, left to right, front: Carol Tiger; Louise McNac; Terry Dutchy; and Ruthie Burgess; back — Donnie McNac; Charley Mitchell; Mitch Tiger and Rusty Powell.

CLARENCE BEAR

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Clarence Maxey Bear were held Nov. 7 at Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church with Revs. George Doyle and Allison Phillips officiating.

He was born Feb. 20, 1922 in Tuskegee to Lucinda Bear and died Nov. 4 in Okemah.

He lived in the Creek and Okfuskee counties for most of his life and attended school at Chilocco Indian School. He worked for T.H. Rogers Lumber Company in Okmulgee. He was a member of Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church. He enjoyed fishing, working on old cars, singing Mvskoke songs, and eating fried chicken.

Preceding him in death were: his mother; two brothers, Jimmy Jones and J.R. Jones; and one sister, Polly Wolfe. Survivors include: six nieces, Teresa Tucker, Della Peeper, Margie Childress, Maxine Stidham, and Cella Sexton; and Cynthia Dan.

Interment was at Montesoma Cemetery.

ANNIE BILLY

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Annie Billy were held Dec. 11 at Robert Simons Funeral Home with Rev. Wallace Gambler officiating.

Billy

She was born March 10, 1929 in Hanna to Johnson and Maggie Beaver Proctor and died Dec. 6 in Tulsa. Billy lived in Hanna her entire life until moving to Checotah 10 years ago. She married Frank Billy in December of 1950 in Hanna.

She was an active member of Trenton Indian Baptist Church and held women's leader position for many years. She enjoyed quilting, gardening, and bird watching.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; two sisters, Ella Billy and Mandy Lowe; two brothers, Andy and Lewis Proctor; husband, Frank Billy; and two children, Johnnie and Martha Billy. Survivors include: four sons, Daniel of Welty, Thomas of Checotah, David of Broken Arrow; and Franklin "Herb" of Claremore; four daughters, Daria Hicks, Gracine Hicks, and Lisa Billy, all of Okemah, and Gloria Billy of the home; three brothers, John Proctor of Wetumka, Sam Proctor of Dustin, and James Proctor of Glenpool; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Terry Hicks; Johnie Hicks; B.J. Jacobs; John Grayson Jr.; Mose Lowe; and Kelly Lowe. Honorary pallbearers were: Oscar Hicks; Isaiah Hicks; Robert Washington; Bill Sarnie; Sally Coachman; and Hannah Tiger. Interment was at Hanna Cemetery.

MELFORD HOBIA

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Melford Larkin "Sonny" Hobia were held Nov. 4 at Wetumka Indian Baptist Church with Revs. Wallace Gambler and Bill Hobia officiating.

He was born March 17, 1936 in Hughes County to Louis and Agnes Wesley Hobia and was raised by Henry and Judy Harjo. He died Nov. 1 at his home in Weleetka.

Hobia attended area schools and then Chilocco Indian School. He enlisted in the Navy in October 1955 and served until October 1961 when he was honorably discharged.

He married Mary Tiger on March 3, 1967. He was employed as a welder at Trinity Steel in Tulsa for many years. He then moved to the Weleetka area where he worked as a Muscogee Nation Lighthorse officer and was last employed by Kialegee Tribal Town. His hobbies included: fishing; playing bingo; watching football; working on cars; and spending time with his grandchildren. He was a member of Grace Baptist Church in Wetumka.

Preceding him in death were: one brother, Elliott Hobia; two grandsons; and one granddaughter. Survivors include: his wife of the home; four sons, Steve O'Connell of Tulsa, Donnie Tiger of Sapulpa, Richard Tiger of Reno, Nev., and Mark Butch Tiger of Stilwell; four daughters, Kelly Hobia of Tulsa, Karen Hobia of Henryetta, and Sharon and Bonita Hobia of the home; brothers, Bill Hobia of Seminole, Wilburn Hobia of Wetumka, Tiger Hobia of Weleetka, Ricky Hobia of Wetumka, Henry Harjo Jr. of Tulsa, Andrew Harjo of Bowlegs, and Curtis Harjo of Pawnee; sisters, Millie Scott, Ester June Fixico, Mary Givens, Martha Givens, Brenda Leftwich, Matilda Jones, and Lois Jean Harjo, all of Wetumka, and Phyllis Battle of Ranger, Texas.; five grandsons; 11 granddaughters; and many other relatives.

Pallbearers were: his four sons; Richard Wildcat; and Bill Hobia Jr. Honorary pallbearers were Leonard Fish and Leonard Frazier. Flowergirls were his granddaughters and nieces. Interment was at Kialegee Cemetery.

CATHERINE JONES

Catherine Nell Bible Wilde Jones died Oct. 4.

She was born Sept. 24, 1929 in Okmulgee to David Bible and Leona Grayson Bemo.

She attended Eufaula Boarding School and continued her education at Haskell Institute. She and Owen Howard Jones were married for 31 years.

Preceding her in death were: sisters, Mary Louise Lowe, Shirley Ann Thomas, Betty Jo Bush, Linda Faye Bible; and brother, Lewis Henry Bible. Survivors include: four children, James Oscar Wilde Jr. of Covington, Tenn.; Richard Edmond Wilde of Tulsa; Karen Dee Wilde Rogers of Aurora, Colo.; and David Lee Wilde of Glenpool; sister, Lucille Miller; two brothers, David Eugene Bible and Robert Lee Bible; seven grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

NATHAN KELLY

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Nathan James Kelly were held Nov. 12 at Okfuskee Baptist Church with Rev. Raymond Beaver officiating.

He was born Aug. 24, 1920 to James and Louana Konawa Kelly in Eufaula and died Nov. 7 at Talihina Veterans Center.

Kelly graduated from Eufaula High School. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy on Dec. 22, 1942 and was honorably discharged on Feb. 3, 1954. He retired as a mail carrier from U.S. Postal Service, Eufaula. His church affiliation was Okfuskee Baptist Church.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; two brothers, Willie and Robert Kelly; and sister, Betty Kelly Proctor. Survivors include: three nephews, Frank Proctor of Tulsa, Frederic Proctor and Jack Proctor, both of Oklahoma City.

Pallbearers were: Byar Beaver; Jonathan Francis; John Beaver; William Hill; Garfield Lewis; and James Beaver. Honorary pallbearers were: Charles Pratt; Dugan McIntosh; Jeremiah Lewis; and Jon Mark Tiger. Interment was at Greenwood Cemetery with military honors conducted by Mvskoke Honor Guard.

EDDIE SMITH

CASTLE — Funeral services for Eddie Smith were held Dec. 9 at Prairie Springs Baptist Church with Revs. Richard Fixico and Wallace Gambler officiating.

He was born Aug. 19, 1926 to Malley Ahofonkee Smith and died Dec. 3.

Smith served in the U.S. Army. He had lived Okfuskee County for most of his life, with the exclusion of 12 years during which he resided in Oklahoma City. He and Elsie Mae Cloud were married on June 3, 1986. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, and raising cattle and chickens.

Preceding him in death were: his mother; daughter, Cindy Sue Ramirez; brother, Jose Smith; grandson, Shawn Smith; infant son, Timothy Smith; and wife, Mandy Smith. Survivors include: three sons, James of Seminole, Paul of Henryetta, and Chester of the home; two daughters, Linda Grammar of Welty and Christie Smith of Castle; two brothers, Sam Cooper of Castle and Joe Smith of Weleetka; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers include: Ryan, James, Ronnie, Michael, Captain, and Randy Smith. Interment was at Smith [Ahofonkee] Family Cemetery with military honors conducted by Mvskoke Honor Guard.

BENJAMIN SUMKA

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Benjamin Harrison Sumka were held Aug. 31 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel with Revs. Mitchell Taylor and George Polecat officiating.

He was born Sept. 16, 1923 to Rev. Willie and Salina Jacobs Sumka and died Aug. 28 in Henryetta.

Sumka was a long time resident of Ryal Community.

Preceding him in death were: infant son, Ben Sumka Jr.; granddaughter, LaDonna Sumka; and wife, Lucille Smith Sumka. Survivors include: five daughters, Diana Grayson of Stilwell, Abby Prentiss of Okmulgee, Doris, Jeanetta, and Juanita Sumka, all of Henryetta; three sons, Marvin of Glenpool, Martin and Bill, both of Henryetta; 12 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and three sisters, Melinda Sumka and Polly Wright of Henryetta and Hepsey Ridenhour of Tulsa.

Pallbearers include: Leonard Sumka; Bradley Sumka; Marvin Sumka Jr.; Cheyenne Marks; Johnny Morgan; and Jerry Sumka. Honorary pallbearers include Bryon Vann and Derreck Wright.

JAMIE THOMPSON

HAYDONVILLE — Funeral services for Jamie Madeline Johnson Thompson were held Nov. 21 at Montesoma Church with Deacons Conny Hart, George Alexander, and Fred Jones officiating.

She was born in Okfuskee County to Noah and Mamie Stoddard Thompson and died Nov. 17 in Okemah.

She was a member of Montesoma church all her life. She enjoyed sewing, quilting, working crossword puzzles and hunting and fishing in younger years.

Preceding her in death were her parents and her husband, Norman Thompson. Survivors include: niece, Mary Margaret Tecumseh of California; cousins, Ed and Sharon Mouss of Henryetta and Mary and Willie Shannon of Weleetka; and nephew, Osceola Thompson of Bristow.

Pallbearers were: David Lena; Jason Panoske; Tesv Taylor; Robert Alexander; Fred Jones; and Luther Factor.

Gratitude

We appreciate all the assistance we received from: Alfred Berryhill; Bob Arrington and the tribal driveways program staff; the tribal social services department; the Lighthorse police; Shurden-Kelly Funeral Home staff; friends; and family members.

Your kindness will always be remembered. *Mvto.*

Elsie Berryhill Douglas Family

Amendment

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Findings in the act assert that the tribe, as a sovereign nation, "shall govern itself, without the oversight or approval of any entity, to its constitution, either in composition or amendments."

The proposed amendment seeks to remove from the tribal Constitution the following subsection (C) from Article IX, Section 1:

"(C) Amendments ratified shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior or his agent for his approval and shall have full force and effect from the date of approval. The Secretary of the Interior or his agent shall give his approval or disapproval in writing within ninety (90) days, citing reason if disapproved. Failure to respond in the time limits set forth shall be construed as an act of approval."

All enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal members, ages 18 and older, are eligible to vote, but must have valid registration with the tribal election board office in order to do so.

Election board office staff will mail out absentee voter ballot request forms on Feb. 5. The deadline to return absentee ballot request forms is March 27. The absentee voter registration deadline is March 27 as well. Election board office staff will mail out absentee voter ballots on March 31. The precinct voter registration deadline is April 9. In order to be counted, absentee vote ballots must be in the election board post office box on April 19.

Election board office staff requests that registered tribal voters update information regarding: changes of address (address changes related to 911 included); name changes; and also informing the office of deaths of registered tribal voters.

For more information, call election board office staff at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, extensions 294 or 349.

Cheated

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secretaries have been held in contempt of court. But until now the Indians' evidence of loss was largely anecdotal.

"We just knew there was a lot of money missing," said Tex Hall, president of the National Congress of American Indians and the leader of his tribe, the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation in North Dakota. "Elders would come to me and say, `Tex, I got money last year but didn't get any this year.' There was so much variation in the system that we know something was wrong."

[On Jan. 6], however, the Indians attempted to quantify their loss. In a voluminous filing that included detailed private records of oil extraction and mineral mining going back to the late 19th century, lawyers for the Indians said the government had stolen, lost or misallocated tens of billions since it was given responsibility for managing assets on Indian lands in 1887. The lawyers said that if all the figures were added up they would reach $137.2 billion.

Government officials, told what the Indians were claiming, ridiculed the figure, which is more than 10 times the size of the Interior Department's budget. J. Steven Griles, the deputy interior secretary, who manages the trust fund issue, said: "Nobody has shown me that there has been a loss. They haven't provided one shred of evidence."

For its part, the Interior Department filed a brief [on Jan. 6] that shows only how it intends to overhaul trust fund management and account for the money in the fund.

Over the last several years, Judge Royce C. Lamberth has come down hard on the side of the Indians, saying he has never seen greater government incompetence than the department has displayed in administering the Indians' money and in representing itself in court.

When the government appealed his 1999 order for a full accounting, the Court of Appeals resoundingly upheld Judge Lamberth and accused the department of "malfeasance."

The Interior Department's performance has served as "the gold standard for mismanagement by the federal government for more than a century," Judge Lamberth wrote last September.

Problems with the Indian Trust Fund began almost as soon as it was set up. It came into existence as a result of a scheme in 1887 by Senator Henry Dawes, a Massachusetts Republican who proposed dividing much of the land held by Indian reservations into plots for individual Indians as a way to persuade them to become farmers on their own land.

Others saw the new law as an opportunity for a great land grab, through purchases or swindles. Just after passage of the law in 1887, individual Indians owned 138 million acres. Today they own about 10 million. Tribes own an additional 45 million acres.

The new law also charged the Interior Department with managing the land. A timber company hoping to cut down trees on an Indian's land, for example, would negotiate a lease with the department, which would collect the money and then pay the landowners.

Almost right away, newspapers began to report that Indians were not getting their money. But it was another 40 years before the government took its first look at the problem. In 1929, the General Accounting Office reported that "numerous expenditures are made from these funds" that were not payments to the Indian owners "by using a very broad interpretation of what constitutes the benefit of the Indian."

In general, the accounting office said, the trust fund's books were in such disarray that it was impossible to verify that "the Indian received the full measure of benefit to which he was entitled."

In the decades since then scores of reports from government auditors continued to document the problems, culminating with an influential Congressional report in 1992 titled "Misplaced Trust: The Bureau of Indian Affairs' Mismanagement of the Indian Trust Fund."

It documented "a dismal history of inaction and incompetence."

In 1994, Congress passed the American Indian Trust Reform Management Act, which required the department to account for all the money in the fund — and to clean up the accounting and payment processes. Interior promised to comply, but in the following years little was done.

In 1996, Elouise Cobell, a banker and Blackfoot Indian from Montana, filed the lawsuit demanding a full accounting of the fund. She said she was left little choice because, when she asked questions of Interior Department officials, "what I got were patronizing pats on the head."

No doubt, reconstructing trust records for thousands of accounts over the last 115 years is a daunting task — particularly since many of the records have been destroyed. But the government continued destroying hundreds of boxes of trust fund records years after the suit was filed, even after Judge Lamberth ordered that they be preserved.

When the Interior Department asked the Justice Department to appeal Judge's Lamberth's ruling calling for an accounting in 1999, Justice Department lawyers advised that an appeal would not succeed unless interior at least appeared to be performing an accounting, court records say.

So in April 2000 the government published a notice in the Federal Register saying it wanted to take opinions on how an accounting should be done. But even before most of the public opinion was taken, the Interior Department decided privately to use a statistical sampling technique, instead of real accounting.

Judge Lamberth wrote last fall that the Federal Register notice was "a sham." The entire exercise was "an unconscionable scheme" and "gross misbehavior" that "rises to the level of fraud on the court."

When Secretary Gale A. Norton came into office, she endorsed the sampling plan but changed her mind a few months later. In the spring of 2001 the Interior Department opened and staffed a new division, called the Office of Historical Trust Accounting. Fourteen employees and dozens of contract workers spent a year determining how a full accounting might be done. When they finished last July, their report said the work would last a decade or longer, cost at least $2.4 billion — and might not even produce a usable result.

Joseph F. Keiffer III, appointed by Judge Lamberth to monitor the case, concluded that "it is time to consider that the department not only will not — but also cannot — perform the historical accounting mandated by Congress and ordered by this court."

In interviews last month, department officials acknowledged that they were scrapping the historical accounting office proposal and writing off the time and money spent on it. The officials also said they had concluded that a full historical accounting would be impossible.

Today, the fund holds about $3.2 billion, and the government pays out about $560 million a year. Some recipients are paid as little as 5 cents annually; others get as much as a few thousand dollars.

After more than six years in court, some in Congress and elsewhere have urged the two sides to settle. But views have hardened. Mr. Griles, the deputy interior secretary who manages the trust fund, said, "I am not settling a case with taxpayer money for billions of dollars when there is no supporting evidence that the money they say they lost ever existed."

But Mr. Hall, the president of the National Congress of American Indians, counters: "This isn't taxpayer money. This is our money that the government took, and they have to give it back."

Chief's race

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also the tribal business enterprise. His pet project has been preparing the Nation, through the enterprise, for pursuing government contracts that will provide jobs for Muscogee citizens.

"The opportunities for our Nation to grow and prosper have never been greater," Ellis said.

Ellis is a member of the: Creek Indian Memorial Association; Okmulgee Area Development Cooperation; Northeastern Oklahoma Manufacturing Council; and Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce.

The primary election for the office of the principal chief — as well as National Council seats — will be held Sept. 20. The general election will be held Nov. 8.

Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, who is completing the last year of two consecutive four-year terms, will not be in the 2003 running as he will have reached Constitutional term limitations for the office.

Editor's note: Ellis belongs to Locvpoka Tribal Town and is the son of the late Doolie and Nellie Bruner Ellis. He was born, raised and still resides in the Kvncate area (Twin Hills) with his wife, Gayle. He is a member of Concharty United Methodist Church.

Council

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Cleghorn, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

abstaining was **Almerigi**, Okmulgee;

- approved (23-1-0) TR 02-053, authorizing the principal chief to accept a corrected warranty deed for a certain tract of land in Seminole County;

voting no was **Aaron**, Creek;

- failed (11-13-0) NCA 02-086, authorizing a special appropriation to assist in the orthodontic treatment of three Muscogee (Creek) children;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved as amended (15-9-0) NCA 02-107, amending NCA 99-10 § 110 (B) and (C) (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation creating a business enterprise of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, establishing a board of directors of the enterprise and defining the purpose and powers of the enterprise and its board of directors)

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved as amended (16-8-0) NCA 02-108, amending NCA 99-22, §110 (B) and (C) (a bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation creating the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade and Commerce Authority, establishing of trustees of the authority and defining the purpose and powers of the authority and its board of trustees)

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (13-11-0) NCA 02-117, amending NCA 01-183, §402.D to clarify role of ex-officio member of gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 02-118, authorizing the expenditure of M.R. and Evelyn Hudson Foundation Grant funds for hospital diagnostic and safety equipment;
- approved unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 02-123, appropriating funds for title insurance for property in Muskogee County to be placed in trust;
- approved (20-4-0) NCA 02-126, appropriating funds for the Tulsa Creek Indian Community to host and serve dinner after the annual Council Oak Tree Ceremony;

voting no were: **Wind**, Muskogee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; and **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

Aug. 8 extraordinary session

Absent was: **Warrington**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; and **Bible**, Tulsa; and **Hufft**, Tulsa District.

Speaker **Gouge**, McIntosh, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

- approved (16-2-0) TR 02-057, authorizing the principal chief to solicit for proposals for the commercial development of Mackey Sandbar; and

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved unanimously (18-0-0) TR 02-058, authorizing the principal chief to execute a modification agreement for the purchase of property in Seminole County.

Aug. 24 regular session

Absent was **McIntosh**, McIntosh.

Speaker **Gouge**, McIntosh, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In the order of business the Council:

- approved to return to committee (22-2-0) TR 02-045, authorizing the principal chief to sell equipment that is no longer operational from the farm at Hanna as surplus;

voting no were: **Lewis**, Okmulgee and **Nichols**, Okmulgee;

- killed on the floor (24-0-0) TR 02-047, authorizing the principal chief to investigate and negotiate for the purchase of Robert Simons Funeral Home in Henryetta, Okmulgee County;
- approved (22-2-0) TR 02-050, confirming the renomination of **Waukomis Lewis** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee and **Golden**, Okfuskee;

- failed as amended (9-15-0) TR 02-054, confirming the renomination of **Leonard M. Harjo** to serve as the director for the division of health administration;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved as amended (13-11-0) TR 02-060, supporting the Muscogee (Creek) Nation health administration director to execute lease agreements with Williams Scottsman, incorporated to provide relocatable buildings for the special diabetes program;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved unanimously (24-0-0) TR 02-061, authorizing the health administration director to execute a lease agreement with tampler leasing and to relocate behavioral health and substance abuse services to new offices;
- approved unanimously as amended (24-0-0) TR 02-062, approving the selection of contractors for total rehabilitation of four privately-owned homes, one mutual help, and five Eufaula low-rent apartments;
- approved as amended (23-0-0) TR 02-064, approving the business plan for the operation of a Conoco fuel stop located at Interstate 40 and state highway 56 in Seminole County;

Rep. **Jackson**, Okfuskee, did not vote;

- failed on the floor (22-2-0) NCA 02-020, amending §104 of NCA 96-18 (executive office reorganization) to include the environmental compliance office, the housing division, the trade and commerce authority, and the enterprise board within the organizational plan, to be codified in title 37 of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Lewis**, Okmulgee and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

- approved as amended (16-6-0) NCA 02-048, appropriating funds to Nuyaka Indian Community in the Okfuskee District;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

Reps. **Johnson** and **Nichols**, both Okmulgee, did not vote;

- approved as amended (12-11-0) NCR 02-088, authorizing a special appropriation for scholarship assistance for a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

Rep. **Bible**, Tulsa, did not vote;

- approved (16-8-0) NCA 02-116, authorizing an appropriation to Weleetka Indian Community for a paved parking lot and street;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved unanimously (24-0-0) NCA 02-121, authorizing an appropriation to Tulsa Creek Indian Community for parking lot repairs;
- approved as amended (23-0-0) NCA 02-125, authorizing the expenditure of the special diabetes grant program budget for fiscal year 2002;

Rep. **Kelley**, Tulsa, did not vote;

- approved unanimously as amended (24-0-0) NCA 02-130, appropriating a "Safe and Stable Families" grant match for children and family services and authorizing expenditure;
- approved unanimously as amended (24-0-0) NCA 02-133, approving the comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year 2003 and providing for appropriations;
- approved (23-0-0) NCA 02-135, providing for disposition procedures for unclaimed property or money in possession of the lighthorse police;

The record reflects that Rep. **Hufft**, Tulsa, was excused from the meeting;

- approved as amended (22-0-0) NCA 02-136, amending NCA 01-109 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending NCA 82-30 §§101, 102, 111,112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 130, 132, 133, 135, 136, 138, and 207 amending NCA 88-79, rule 3, 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 14, repealing certain sections of NCA 82-30, adding a new evidence code, and repealing NCA 83-50, all relating to judicial procedures, to be codified in title 27 code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, relating to suits against the Muscogee Nation;

The record reflects that Rep. **Pickering**, McIntosh, was excused from the meeting;

- approved (18-4-0) NCA 02-137, authorizing a special appropriation for the Muscogee (Creek) youth stomp dancers to participate in the Ocmulgee Festival in Macon, Ga. Sept. 20 through 22, 2002;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

- approved as amended (22-0-0) NCA 02-142, authorizing a supplemental appropriation for Muscogee (Creek) National Council fiscal year 2002 budget;
- approved (22-0-0) NCA 02-145, authorizing a supplemental appropriation for the emergency medical assistance program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health Administration;
- approved (21-1-0) NCA 02-146, amending NCA 02-200 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the construction of parking lots located on the tribal complex);

voting no was **Aaron**, Creek;

- approved (22-0-0) NCA 02-150, amending NCA 01-170 Muscogee (Creek) Nation expenditure of all funds necessary for the completion of the Sapulpa Health Center expansion project.

In items for consideration, the Council:

- approved (19-2-0) NCA 02-047, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Human Development Department Cultural Preservation Program to more efficiently allocate funds;

voting no were: **Lewis**, Okmulgee and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

Rep. **Johnson**, Okmulgee, did not vote;

- approved as amended (12-10-0) NCA 02-088, authorizing a special appropriation for scholarship assistance for a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Berryhill**, Wagoner and **Gillespie**, Wagoner.

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Ohrolope Mucvse Afvckvkes

Edwin Marshall hotcicat

Momen, ohrolope mucasoset vlakes, emvhonkvtkv tonomat, Cukpe Rakko Hokkolen Tutcenokkakat ontos. Rvfo-Cuse maketvt, en hvse tomekv, Oklvhomv ekvntvckv em mekko mucvsan yekcetv emhoyvnks. Momen hocefkv tonomat, *Brad Henry't* ontos. Temvklitvlke tomekv, este cate sulket 'semvnicaken ossatetv epoyvnks. Momat omecicen, este catvlke 'semvnice sase tomvcoket ontos.

Maskoke etvlwvt, Otowoskuce en hvse emofvn, mekkvke, momen vhakv haye vpokateu, emossatetv emoketv't epohvlvkv rane't ontos. Momis emparvnke, vhakv empvtakv 'mvrvhecicetv vrakkosan, ossatetv'eu huerihocvranet ontos. Ossate tayet yekcetv ocecket onomat, ossateckvren ecohyekcice'et ontos. Momis emvculkvn oricet, yekcetv hvte oceckekot onomat, Maskoke Etvlwv *Election Board* maketvn ahuekkecken omat, estomet 'nak soffvtcficetv omakat, cemonahoyvres. Momen setemponahokv emvhonkvtkvt onomat, 1 *(918) 756-8700 extension 350*, monkat hopvyen ahuekkeckis onomat, *1 (800) 482-1979, extension 350*, mvt omak'tos.

"kE wÂ' Ô g@ s@^nchE sOlA hA wa hE' nÔka badA g@k@ hAg@ TalA a hA nA jÊ. Skwa hA TAlA wAjElA a hA s@^n sOlA hA k@tAlA nA ha nA jÊ abA hên n@ kA'ê nA. s@^chE nA Okûn bEf@ g@^hA kA jÊn sO TO kE gÔn fA na wên Ta wE hÊn dA hO't@lA nAjÊn." — **Maggie Marsey**

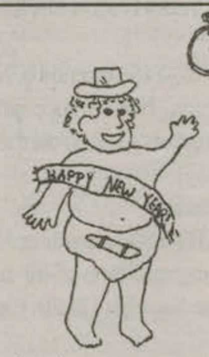
"N@lA' sA hÔn dE'O' nA chE sAhO' sE'O dE nA chE ya hÔn kw@ gÔnTA hÔ'n WAdA nAjÊn aka jE lA hE dÔnda. ab@^chE nA pullA k'a kA'ê thla bAhênA a TAlA kE Ô'n kA nA s@^ chEnA w@ hÔn dA n@kA ê aga lA dEkE.

n@ dÊn dÔn lÂ nEha n@ k'@ TA nÔn fa jÊn lA kafa k'a dabE s@^n nO thl@ dA sOTE EdA nO thl@ nOwaha fa na jÊn hên Pa KÊn ba K@k@ hEg@ hÊn dA kAdA w@'TAlA dEwE hûn!" — **Josephine Keith**

Mvskoke Punakv Vketecvlke

Rvfo Rakko emofvn, Tvlse Mvskoke meteliktv cukon, Oklahoma State University cokv hecvlken, vrakueckvn mome hocvnks.
Homv sapaklat: Linda Alexander, mvhayv; Keisha Cato; Georganne Delaune; Jessica Yahola; Erinlee Sweat; momen Ted Isham, mvhayv; yupv sapaklat — Sam Pickett; Scott Childers; Kim Estes; momen Breanna Tucker.

Emponakv enhvteceskv/ho'wAdAnA hOtO'ê



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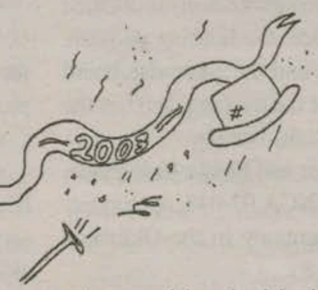

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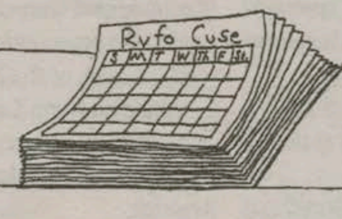
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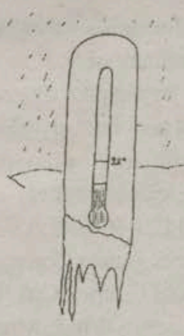

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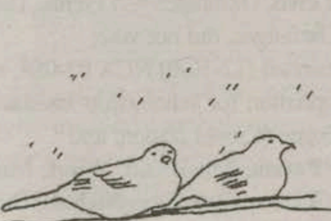

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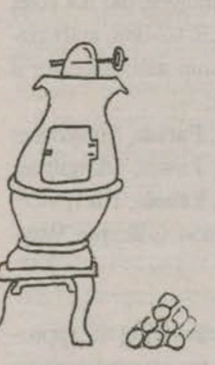

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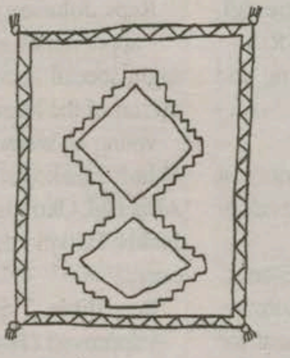

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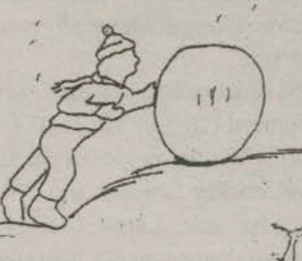

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The Muscogee Nation News

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Volume 32, Issue 2 P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447 March 2003, 8 pages

Muscogee men fighting in U.S. war with Iraq

From the American War of Independence to the Gulf War Muscogee Indians, along with other Native Americans, have played an important role in the history of this country's military.

Additionally, more Native Americans have served the U.S., per capita, than any other ethnic group.

In this tradition, Muscogee man Jason Fixico recently departed for Iraq with the U.S. Army's 4th Infantry Division.

Fixico, who had been stationed at Fort Hood in Killeen, Texas, is an armored tank driver with the 110th Calvary Buffalo Soldiers. Upon speaking with Spc. 1st Class Fixico, prior to his departure, he was anxiously waiting to leave.

"I know the unit I'm with is ready to go over there and I know I'm anxious to be going too," said the 25 year old Fixico.

Fixico, of Moore, has been in the military for two years and did not expect the outbreak of war to occur during his enlistment period. "They (military leaders) have been telling us to get ready since January," he said.

His tank is specifically called an M1A2. It weighs

Jason and Johnny Fixico

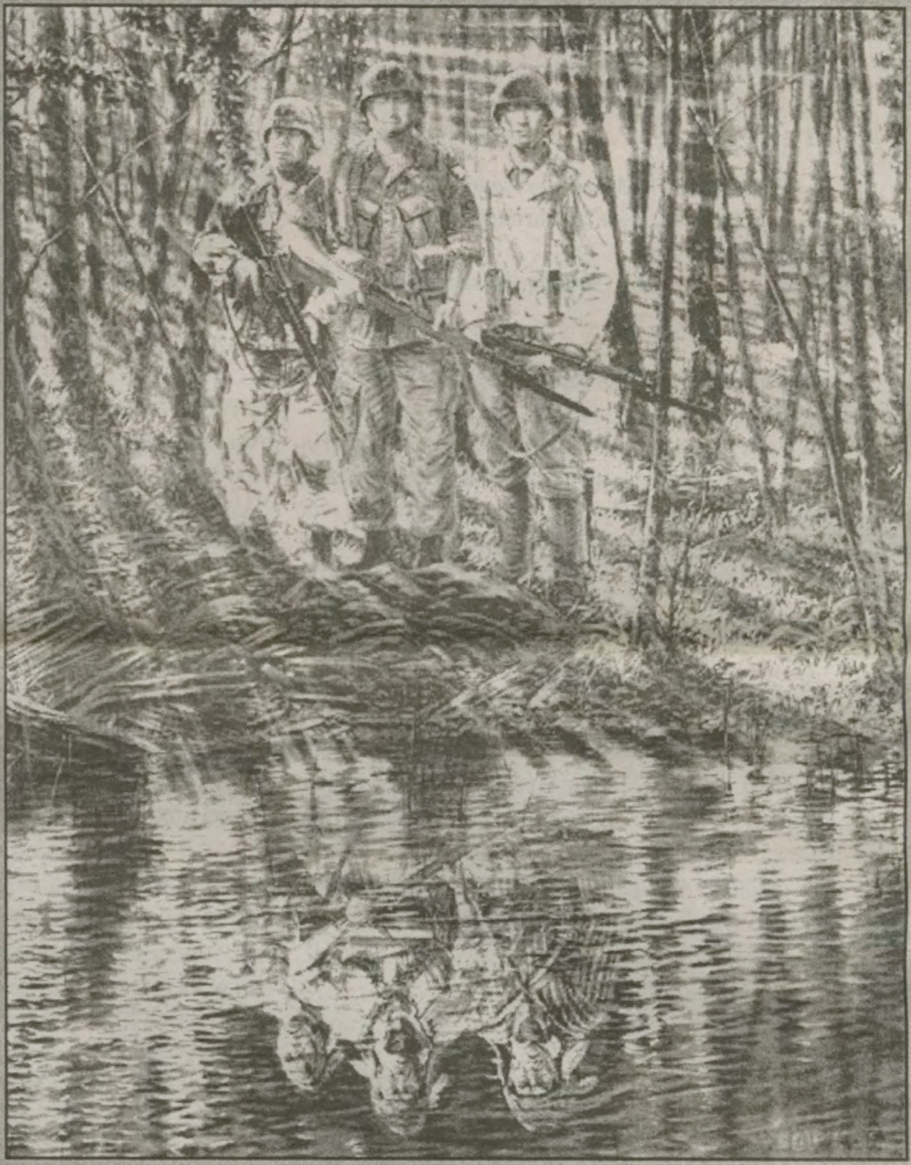
see **WAR...**, page 3

Muscogee veterans

"The Muscogee Nation News" wants to acknowledge all Muscogee (Creek) tribal citizens that are currently enlisted with the U.S. Armed Forces.

Include: name; age; date of birth; branch of service; and name of military unit affiliation. Also include family, tribal town, clan, and church membership information if known. Please specify if enlisted member is directly involved with the war in Iraq. The information, along with a good quality photographed may be e-mailed or mailed to the addresses listed in the bottom right hand corner of page two.

"Vanguard of the Land"



"Vanguard of the Land" depicts Muscogee veterans Ken Davis, Amos Harjo, and Freeland Douglas representing the Gulf War, Vietnam, and World War II.
The three men are all members of the Mvskoke Redstick Combat Veterans organization which commissioned the artwork by Cherokee artist Talmadge Davis.

original artwork
by Talmadge Davis

Tribal deputy director running for second chief

OKMULGEE — In early February Muscogee tribal citizen Curtis Hicks announced his candidacy for the office of second chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Hicks, age 38, states that he is seeking this position to improve conditions for all tribal members. He believes that his 14 years of tribal government experience as a counselor, program manager, and division director has been excellent training for fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of second chief.

Hicks

Originally from Mason, where he graduated from high school, Hicks holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Northeastern State University.

"I want to be a role model for future generations by demonstrating that Muscogee people can obtain their education and maintain their Muscogee cultural identity at the same time" said Hicks who speaks the language as well as purports to maintaining strong ties with his traditional heritage.

Hicks cited several points of his political platform, which include: increasing employment for all tribal members; developing more educational opportunities for youth and tribal members; creating a planning and research department which would focus on access

see **HICKS...**, page 3

Letters to the editor

Citizen reports that signs have been returned

Editor:

In October 2002, I sent you a letter pertaining to the unauthorized removal of signs from the Kelly Moore Bridge on Moore Creek, a few miles south of the City of Morris. I am writing today to thank you for including the letter in an issue of your newspaper.

I am now happy to report to you that the letter served its purpose well and brought the response we desired.

A few days ago I was told that, because of my letter, the signs were returned to the county commissioners and, once again, are in place at each end of the bridge.

On behalf of my brothers and myself, and other family members, I thank you again for your assistance in this matter.

Edwin S. Moore Sr., Muskogee

Legal notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*,
Volume 32, Issue 2, February 2003

Case No. AD 2003-01
In the matter of the adoption of Cameron Alexander Davis, a minor child

Notice of Hearing to Terminate Parental Rights

To: Brad Sneed

On the 21st day of January, 2003, an Application was filed in this Court by the prospective adoptive parents seeking an order of this Court to terminate Brad Sneed's parental rights to minor child Cameron Alexander Davis. Cameron Alexander Davis was born on the 20th day of July, 1991, to Sabrina Lynn Martin. A hearing on said Application is set for the 31st day of March, 2003, the hour of 10:00 a.m. in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Oklahoma, before the Honorable Patrick E. Moore.

Petitioners have alleged in the Application that the alleged father of Cameron Alexander Davis, a child born out of wedlock, is Brad Sneed, and that he has failed to contribute to the support of the minor child and that he has abandoned the minor child in that he has failed to maintain a significant relationship with the child through visitation or communication for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of the Petition for Adoption and the Application to Terminate Parental Rights.

Notice is hereby given that the court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of the application at the time and place above shown where you will have the right to be present and an opportunity to be heard at said time and place including the right to object to the termination of your parental rights over the said child: your failure to appear at said hearing shall constitute a denial of your interest in the child, which denial may result, without further notice of this proceeding or any subsequent proceedings, in said child's adoption without your consent. Notice is hereby given that the court will hear evidence in support of and in opposition to the granting of the application to terminate your parental rights. If you do not appear at this hearing, the court will, on the date and time of the hearing, enter an order terminating your parental rights without further notice. Your parental rights to said child shall thereby be terminated in accordance with the tribal code of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the laws of the State of Oklahoma.

/s/ Patrick Moore, Judge of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Attorney for Petitioners
Lori J. Guevara, MCN 199
TU Boeshce Muscogee (Creek) Nation Indian Legal Clinic
407 S. Florence Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74104
(918)631-5799

January District Court filings

Civil Actions:

- Car-Mart vs. Kristi Smith
- In Re: Paternity of: Andrea Dannatte
- Royal Finance vs. Jeremiah Hicks
- Royal Finance vs. George Bell
- Dixie Finance vs. Virginia Jackson.

Protective Orders:

- Laura Morgan vs. Johnny L. Morgan Jr.
- Minnifee Delgado vs. Manuel Perez
- Laura Morgan et al vs. Johnny Morgan Jr.
- Karen Umholtz vs. Tim Cleveland
- Minnifee Delgado vs. Manuel Perez
- Minnifee Delgado vs. Manuel Perez
- Ashley Watson vs. Jason Diggins
- Melanie Diggins vs. Jason Diggins
- Minnifee Delgado vs. Manuel Perez
- Roxanne Jones vs. Marcus Lawrence

Divorce:

- Lydia Pickering vs. Zack Pickering
- Polly Sanders vs. Aaron Burgess

Criminal-misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jerry Self Jr.

—count 1: trespassing

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. April Bush

—counts 5: cheating by check

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Crashawn Crook

—count 1: possession of stolen property
—count 2: leaving scene of damaged property

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Today [Feb. 26, 2003] was a very bad day weather wise. It was 15 degrees in the morning, with freezing rain and frozen roads. Two business managers and myself were due in Dallas on business at 10 a.m. All flights were cancelled. I called the office and found that the tribal offices were closed because of severe weather as well. Two days earlier it was just as cold and miserable.

The funeral of my very good friend, **Elmer Jones**, was Monday evening at Belvin Baptist Church. I lost a good friend and Muscogee Nation lost one of its most popular elders. Our warmest thoughts, prayers and wishes are with the Jones Family.

February 15th was a good day at Holdenville Indian Community Center with an elders' Valentines Dance organized by Senior Services Manager **Gloria Bezzell**. It proved to be a real rock and roll affair. With the 30 women and only five men present, it was a little one-sided. Fifties-style clothing worn by some who attended brought back old memories. I will say that a few women from the Koweta senior citizens group — namely **DeLoise Johnson** and **Gertie Noble** — really rocked and rolled. They were real crowd pleasers. I even have the pictures to prove it.

Later that night me and my wife, Gail, attended a fundraiser at Glenpool Indian Community Center put on by the **Felix Gouge** family. Several hundred people danced and raised funds for many worthy causes.

I want to again remind and urge people to get registered and vote at the special election to be held on April 19. This Constitutional question is very important to our tribe. If you don't understand the question, call and ask what it is about.

I want to welcome our new manager for the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise. **Michael Nalley** is a Muscogee citizen who has many years of experience in government contracts and is very excited to work for his own tribe. Good luck Michael.

Everyone is very excited about the new clinic to be built in Coweta. This will surely alleviate medical service needs in this under served area. I know National Council Reps. **Mike Berryhill** and **Barbara Gillespie** are very excited to be representing this area and for being so successful in getting this project in their district.

I have had many calls from concerned people about elders who had very little or no heat, along with housing and health problems. I can only refer these requests to the proper people and hope that it is carried out. I try to check and see if these matters are taken care of, but it is nearly impossible with all of my other duties. Sometimes I am completely overwhelmed with requests and calls, but I get to them as soon as possible. You will never hear complaints from me on my part in this Nation because it is such a great pleasure to help people who cannot help themselves. With elections in all tribal offices upcoming, I urge citizens to consider running for elected office because it's so rewarding. The long, constant hours are all worth it when one person says, "you're doing a good job." *Mvto.*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individuai writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Stephanie Barnett, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the May 4 quarterly session.

Absent were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**; McIntosh District; **Helen Chupco**; Muskogee District; **Mae Jackson**; Okfuskee District; and **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• returned to committee (16-3-0) Tribal Resolution 02-012, authorizing the principal chief to execute an amendment of the Dec. 1, 1998 "Memorandum of agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation, Inc." to eliminate references to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a tribally designated housing entity;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

voting no were: **Dave Lewis,** Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; and **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee;

• tabled (12-7-0) TR 02-022, authorizing the principal chief to enter into a financing agreement with Bank One to fund the construction of an office building in Muskogee;

voting no were: **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Kelley**, Tulsa;

• approved (17-2-0) TR 02-029, confirming the nomination of **Arlene Efurd** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved (16-3-0) TR 02-030, confirming the renomination of **Samuel S. Alexander** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

Alexander is a tribal citizen residing in Broken Arrow;

• approved (11-8-0) NCA 02-009, amending NCA 98-130, to change the department of grant program compliance to the NAHASDA grant compliance office;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• tabled (13-6-0) NCA 02-040, amending NCA 97-100, as amended by NCA 98-70, and amending NCA 98-130 and NCA 98-131, to be codified in title 24, "Housing" of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to eliminate references to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a "tribally designated housing entity;"

voting no were: **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; and **Kelley**, Tulsa;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-053, authorizing the appropriation of the fiscal year 2001 administrative capacity building funds made available to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Indian Reservation Roads Program to further develop the transportation planning program;

• approved (18-1-0) NCA 02-054, authorizing a budget modification for the transportation improvement program FY 1999 and 2001 budgets;

voting no was **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-055, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Services Department Self-governance Program;

• returned to committee unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-056, authorizing budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Services Department Water Quality Program;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-060, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Seminole County;

• tabled unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-064, appropriating funds for the payment of interest on a loan with Bank One;

• approved (12-7-0) NCA 02-065, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) citizen with a mission trip to Ireland;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (18-1-0) NCA 02-067, authorizing a special appropriation to Muscogee Indian Community to construct a new community smokeshop building;

voting no was **Aaron**, Creek;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-068, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department for broadcast costs of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal radio program at KOKL-AM 1240 Okmulgee;

• approved unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-069, appropriating funds from Bureau of Indian Affairs self-govern compact for the purpose of environmental cleanup of the sanitary sewer system at the Kellyville Indian Community Center and for removal of trash dumps on Ferguson Road also known as Skelly-Haskell road;

• return to committee unanimously (19-0-0) NCA 02-056, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Environmental Services Department Water Quality Program.

War

continued from page 1

72 tons and can reach a top speed of 40 miles per hour. Fixico said he likes the challenge presented with the responsibility of being a tank driver and, he lightheartedly added, "it beats walking."

His father, Johnny Fixico, does not support President Bush's political doctrine of "preemption." He believes that the protection of "U.S. interests" equates to the spoils of war, namely a commercial jackpot of oil.

"Who is he (the president) looking out for — the people or someone else's interests?"

As U.S. and British forces continue their assault on Saddam Hussein's regime, Fixico is among thousands of military mothers and fathers that anxiously monitor media

see **WAR...**, page 7

Hicks

continued from page 1

ing funding and developing a long-range plan for the Nation; developing a positive atmosphere for tribal employees; enhancing nutrition services for elders; and preserving the Muscogee language and cultural identity.

Hicks' political doctrine also includes maintaining an open dialogue with tribal members throughout his campaign and service as second chief. In keeping with that philosophy, Hicks will be participating in various candidate forums and political activities throughout Muscogee (Creek) Nation in order to inform and address issues of concern to tribal members.

Hicks is currently the deputy director of tribal affairs. He and his wife, Debra, reside in Okmulgee. He is the father of two children, Eric and Kara.

Muscogee Nation Constitutional amendment endorsement

On April 19, you and I have an opportunity to vote on the most important proposed constitutional amendment since the adoption of our 1979 Constitution.

Subsection (c), Article IX, Section I of our present Constitution requires Secretary of the Interior approval or disapproval of any proposed Constitution amendments. We believe the current language in the Constitution is in direct conflict with the sovereignty of this Nation, does not promote self-governance, and violates treaty rights belonging to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Our Constitution should allow us as a Nation to initiate/implement our own constitutional amendments without approval or disapproval from another governmental entity.

The executive branch of Muscogee (Creek) Nation has received initial favorable response from the Office of the Secretary of the Interior that upon an affirmative referendum vote of tribal citizens, they would remove themselves from the process.

A tribal constitutional amendment committee comprised of a member of the executive branch, committee members of the National Council, and tribal citizens has recommended that the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution be amended to remove secretarial approval/disapproval from the amendment process.

National Council Act 02-153 has brought us to the point now where tribal citizens will vote on this issue.

Please join us in returning the government of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to its citizens by voting yes on Sat., April 19.

Constitutional Amendment Committee Members

Executive Branch member:

Second Chief, A.D. Ellis,

National Council members:

Richard Berryhill, Wagoner/Mayes District
Thomas Yahola, Tukvpvtce District
David Lewis, Okmulgee District
Daniel Wind, Muskogee District
Tom Pickering, McIntosh District
Mae Jackson Okfuskee District

Tribal citizen members:

Vernon Courtwright, McIntosh District
Leon Yahola, Muskogee District
Dora Birdcreek, Okfuskee District
Anderson Hale, Okmulgee District
Rosemary Maxey, Tukvpvtce District
DeLois Johnson, Wagoner/Mayes District
Robert Trepp, Tulsa District
Honorable Patrick E. Moore, District Judge

Special election scheduled for April

OKMULGEE — On April 19 a special election will be held in order to decide if the Secretary of the Interior will be removed from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal Constitutional amendment process.

All enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal members, ages 18 and older, are eligible to vote, but must have valid registration with the tribal election board office in order to do so.

The precinct voter registration deadline is April 9. In order to be counted, absentee vote ballots must be in the election board post office box on April 19.

Election board office staff requests that registered tribal voters update information regarding: changes of address (address changes related to 911 included); name changes; and also informing the office of deaths of registered tribal voters.

For more information, call election board office staff at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, extensions 294 or 349.

Lighthorse police officers sworn into office

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse officers were sworn in as deputy special officers with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Officers sworn in were, left to right, front row: Marlon Harjo; Anthony Butler; and Jason Bruner; back row — Mark Mooney; Vince Fisher; Heath Boutwell, and Frank Chisholm. Conducting the ceremony was BIA District II Commander Leon Glenn, far right.

Tribal higher education deadline announced

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Administration has announced the deadline dates to submit applications for higher education grant programs.

Applications must be submitted by the following deadlines:

- June 1 — Bureau of Indian Affairs Scholarship;
- June 15 — tribal grant; and
- Oct. 15 — postgraduate grant:

Applications will be mailed out through May for the upcoming 2003-2004 academic year.

Eligibility guidelines are: must be an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that possesses a tribal membership card and a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood Card for the BIA; must be pursuing a college level education and post graduate (first time degrees); must apply for federal financial aid and campus based aid (packets may be obtained through a high school counselor or university financial aid office); and must complete applications and submit them before the closing dates.

Applications my be obtained by written request. For more information, contact: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or call (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, extensions 614, 615, 616, 630, and 631.

Traditional arts classes being offered

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Nation Office of Culture and Historic Preservation in coordination with the Creek Council House Museum is hosting a series of workshops to help revive and expand the traditional arts of basket weaving, pottery making, finger weaving, and southeastern beadwork.

The workshops are being held to teach citizens who are interested in *learning how to teach these arts to* others. Most of the classes are a continuation of previous classes on an advanced level.

It is hoped that a core group of teachers will be assembled to teach other citizens about these traditional and ancient Mvskoke arts. In this way, the material culture of Mvskokvlke ancestors can be revived and continued.

The workshop series will be held at the Creek Council House Museum located at 106 W. 6th Street. The classes are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the Saturdays of:

- April 5 — basketry;
- April 10 — finger weaving;
- April 26 — pottery;
- May 3 — southeastern beadwork;
- May 10 — basketry; and
- May 17 — finger weaving.

The instructor for each workshop will be showing the entire process of the craft. Topics will include: processing raw materials; an overview of the methods used; and the skill itself and the finishing process.

Participants can expect to learn about: the gathering of river cane; the processing of native clay; the natural dyes used in coloring; and the pit firing of the pottery. Mvskoke design and artistic patterns will be taught also.

These arts will be taught to any citizen interested, but require that the participant be willing to help teach the knowledge gained.

For more information, call Joyce Bear at (918) 756-8700 or 1 (800) 482-1979, extension 604 or Ted Isham at (918) 756-2324.

please see **NOTICES...**, page 7

Muscogee Nation receives financial reporting award

photo by Gerald Wofford

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation finance department pictured left to right, front row: Evalene Chambers; Joyce Vaughn; Bill Brady; Wanda Froman; Crystal Wegley; Kathy Guthrie; and Donna Berumen; back row — Tom Mitchell; Sharon Lowe; Shelia Buckley; Sherry Montgomery; Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver; Controller James Pratt; Jason Smith; Ruby Booker; Melissa Ambler; and Regina Lowe.

CHICAGO — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation recently received it 20th Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the U.S. and Canada for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR).

The association's certificate of achievement "is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management," according to a GFOA news release.

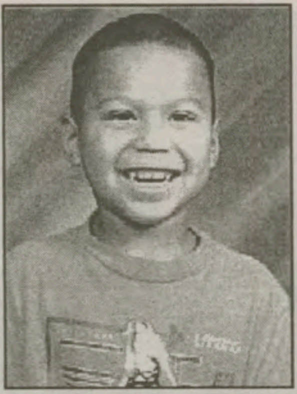
The Muscogee Nation is the first tribal government to submit financials in the new Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 34 format. In addition to submitting GASB 34 financials one year prior to the required deadline, the Nation has received a certificate of excellence for that submission. In 1983, the Muscogee Nation became the first government unit in Oklahoma and the first tribal government in the U.S. to receive the certificate for its 1981 financial reporting, said Muscogee Nation controller James W. Pratt.

The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 14,000 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, Illinois, and Washington, D.C.

Education

OKMULGEE — Westside Primary School student Christian "Cowboy" Harjo was selected student of the month in December.


Harjo

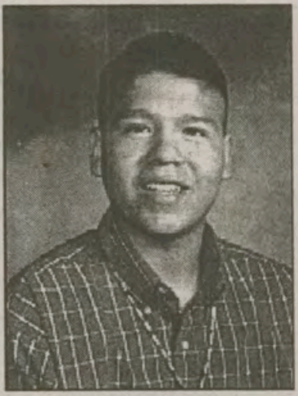
Harjo is a student in Mrs. B. Jackson's kindergarden class.

He is the son of Carressa Jackson and Earnest Harjo.

His maternal grandparents are Robert and Wilma Jackson.

Dustin basketball player breaks school record

DUSTIN — Chris Holuby scored 70 points in Dustin High School boy's 118-58 defeat of Hanna on Jan. 27th.


Holuby

Holuby broke the school record of 68 by hitting 29 of 43 shots from the field and seven of eight free throws. He was 6-of-9 from 3-point territory.

The 5-foot-9 senior guard has been recruited by small colleges.

He is the son of Joe and Brenda Holuby of Dustin.

His grandparents are Sandy and Sally Holuby of Dustin and Douglas and Janey Parks of Moline, Ill.

He has five brothers: Monty; Shane; Shawn; Erick; and Greg; and 12 nieces and nephews.

Student attends leadership forum conference

WASHINGTON — Jessica McCullar, a junior at Shawnee High School, was selected to attend the National Leadership Forum on Defense Intelligence and Diplomacy held during Oct. 29 through Nov. 3.

McCullar

McCullar was joined by approximately 400 other high school students from across America.

She is the daughter of Donna Williamson of Shawnee and Jessie D. McCullar of Okmulgee.

Her grandparents are Frank and Marie Blankenship of Dustin and O.J. and the late Slene McCullar of Eufaula.

Boy receives most valuable player award

TULSA — Lance Dakota Saldivar, a nine year old student at Shelly Elementry played his first season of footbal with the distinction of being named "overall team most valuable player."

Saldivar

Saldivar played defense as well as offense with the East Tulsa Trojans fourth grade team.

"Though his team never won a game, it wasn't for the lack of heart and hard work. They never gave up and never looked back at the failures, but always towards the next game with new hope and excitement that the next one would be better,"said his grandmother, Liz Simmers of Tulsa.

In Novemer, the East Tulsa Trojans held a banquet in which he was awarded overall team MVP as well as with a trophy for team participation .

Saldivar, is the son of Tracy Simmers and Brian Roberts of Glenpool and Jessie and Holly Saldivar of Tulsa.

He has three sisters — Kyrah, Feather, and Deziree Roberts of Glenpool.

Haskell Alumni Association announces reunion

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The National Haskell Alumni Association announces its annual reunion for 1950 through 55 graduates to be held May 8 through 11 at Haskell Indian Nations University. For more information, call Eugene Leitka at (505) 299-5231 or e-mail gleitka@aol.com.

Muscogee woman named distinguished teacher

reprinted from OSU-Okmulgee Today

OKMULGEE — Writing is an intimidating task for many people. Very often it is an overwhelming exercise for college students who are unaccustomed to putting pen to paper or fingertips to keyboard. Yet it is an irreplaceable communication tool in many facets of today's work force.

Mouss

The fortunate are those who wind up in Sharon Mouss' freshman composition classes at Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee.

"It is very important to learn something new every day, then build your skills upon each lesson," explains Mouss. "Writing is not daunting if students set their minds to learning precepts combined with lots of application.

"Therefore, on the first day of class, I try to inspire them to want to learn to write better. I tell them that writing is hard work but that by the end of the semester they will have learned a number of strategies to make it easier and to make them more comfortable doing it.

"After reviewing the course syllabus and class information, I give an assignment; then I teach a simple, but useful, lesson — like how to tell the difference between there, their, and they're, or that "a lot" is two words. On the first day, they learn some helpful tips and feel good about it."

Making students feel good is one of many reasons Mouss recently was named OSU-Okmulgee's recipient of the 2002 Oklahoma State University and A&M Regents Distinguished Teaching Award.

As selection committee chair Dr. Linda Avant, OSU-Okmulgee's executive vice president, said "Sharon exemplifies the best in college teaching; both students and her peers hold a great respect for her."

Mouss joined OSU-Okmulgee's General Education Department in September 1982. The 20-year communications instructor from Henryetta has taught freshman composition, technical writing, fundamentals of English, speech and human relations.

Her teaching philosophy not only includes instilling effective communication skills, but a solid commitment to treat each student with compassion. She acknowledges the individual trials each confronts in their educational journey and strives to help them to reach their goals.

Patricia Williams, 51, wrote, "Returning to school was so overwhelming for me that I was almost back out the door after the first week. Because of Mrs. Mouss, I now have more confidence in completing my education. I have learned from her what commitment is all about."

Teaching students about commitment is just one more reason Mouss was selected for the regents' honor. According to another nontraditional student, Ovid Bruce, she is not someone students can manipulate. "Rather," he says, "she has rules for her classroom that she strictly enforces. She expects her students to do their work, not plagiarize, and above all, turn all assignments in on time. She does not accept late work. This is a good way to help her students realize the need to comply with deadlines before they face deadlines in the workplace."

Mouss' supervisor, Jan Coulson, said "Sharon is, and has been for years, one of our very finest faculty members. She is the consummate professional in everything she does and is well respected by students and co-workers alike. I'm not a bit surprised that she has won this award; actually she is long overdue."

Communications Instructor Sareca Wedel said that Mouss has a lot of passion for her profession and for her subject matter. She admires her energy and professionalism. Eleven-year general education instructor Rachelle Duncan said, "she's hard-working, tough-minded and big-hearted."

Mouss earned her bachelor of arts degree at Oklahoma State University in 1965 and her master's degree in trade and industrial education from OSU in 1994.

Since coming to OSU-Okmulgee, she has served on several campus committees including: many employee selection committees; the graduation committee; navigation committee; student success task force; Pew Higher Education Roundtable Retention Committee; curriculum improvement Committee; library advisory committee; professional development committee; multicultural day committee; and the provost's task force on Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Past credits include; judge for various student contests; selection committee member for the Anna Mae Harjo Scholarship; founder/instructor Dustin Redskin-Knight Writers; past board member for OSU-Technical Branch Federal Credit Union; and for the Creek Council House Museum.

"Good writing is a courtesy to your reader," Mouss tells her students. "Revise. Do your best. A document is a lasting product. It presents an image or impression of you as well as your organization."

Births and birthdays

EMERY BIRDCREEK

SEMINOLE — Emery Graeme Birdcreek was born Nov. 29 at Seminole Medical Center to Roger and Janice Birdcreek of Seminole.

He weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 20 and one half inches in length.

His paternal grandmother is Joyce Harrison of Weleetka.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Johnson of Calvin.

His great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Birdcreek of Weleetka.

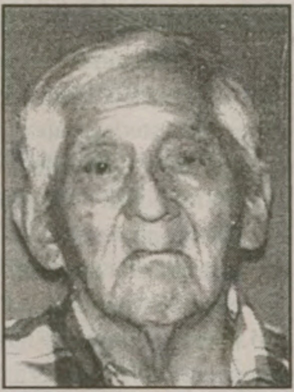
Salt Creek United Methodist Church elders

photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Salt Creek United Methodist Church elders Lizzie Bruner of Holdenville, Bessie Fixico of Yeager, and Church Mother Melissa Deere of Holdenville visit at the church's annual wild onion dinner held on March 1.

EDWARD DEERE

WEWOKA — Funeral services for Edward Everett Deere were held Feb. 14 at Stout-Phillips Funeral Chapel with Rev. Dan Factor officiating.



Deere

He was born Sept. 5, 1919 in Okemah to Sparney and Nancy Harjo Deere. He grew up in the Bearden area, graduated from Bacone High School in Muskogee, and then attended Oklahoma State Technical School. He enlisted in the U. S. Army during World War II. He served in the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre of Operations in the Southern Philippines as an antiaircraft machine gunner. He was awarded the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with a Bronze Star. In 1951 he and Ina Wesley were married. He was employed as a custodian at Wewoka Memorial Hospital until his retirement.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; wife; daughter, Nancy Deere; and siblings, Josiah Deere, Alfred Deere, George Deer, Robert Deer, Minnie Spocogee, Lucy Thomas, and Augusta Hidon.

He is survived by: children, Lydia Proctor, Alene Deere and Jerry Deere of Wewoka, and Thomas Deere of Fish Pond; 17 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were his grandsons and honorary pallbearers were his nephews. Interment was at Quarsarty Baptist Church Cemetery, south of Cromwell, with military honors conducted by Mvskoke Honor Guard.

JUANITA HARJO

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Juanita Harjo were held Jan. 15 at Robert Simons Funeral Home Chapel.

She was born Feb. 21, 1932 in Weleetka to Isom and Winey Polk Karlarney.

Harjo had lived in the Okemah area her entire life. She was married to Benny Harjo for 36 years. She was a longtime member of Creek Chapel Methodist Church. She enjoyed being with her family and grandchildren, playing bingo, and watching wrestling.

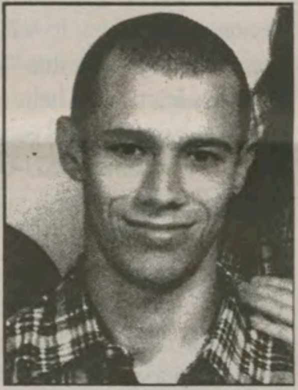
Preceding her in death were: her husband; two sons; one daughter; two sisters; and one brother.

She is survived by: three daughters, Alice Green, Wanda Hicks, and Senora Harjo, all of Okemah; brother, Bobby Karlarney of Okemah; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Amos Green; Daniel Green Jr.; Lewis Green; Kirby Green; John Hicks; and Roscoe Hicks.

JAMES LEWIS JR.

KINGWOOD, Texas — Funeral services for James Robert Dearman Lewis Jr. were held Jan. 16 at Kingwood Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Glenn Sharp officiating.



Lewis

He was born Aug. 30, 1977 in Glendale, Ariz. to James and Linda Lewis. He died Jan. 10 in Kingwood.

Lewis graduated from Kingwood High School in 1996 and completed several semesters at Kingwood College. He enjoyed camping, fishing, golfing, and hunting. At the time of his death, he was working at Sherlocks in Humble.

Survivors include: his parents; grandparents, Pauline Forrest of Henryetta and Dr. and Mrs. M.O. Lewis of Muskogee; sister, Chrissy Lewis of Kingwood; and brother, Michael Lewis of Kingwood.

Sweets from the sweet

photo by Stephanie Berryhill

Salt Creek United Methodist Church sisters Tootsie, Molly, and Wisey Brown, all of Yeager, take a break from serving up the sweets at the church's wild onion dinner held at Holdenville Indian Community Center.

PHI DELTA NEAL

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Phi Delta Lee Evans Neal were held Jan. 3 at The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer with Rev. Gareth Holford officiating.

She was born June 28, 1903 to James and Stella Tiger Evans in Muskogee, Indian Territory and was one of the few remaining original allotees of the Muscogee Nation.

She was a professional dancer during the late 20s and at one time — while residing in the Chicago, Ill. area — travelled to Okmulgee to perform at the Orpheum Theater Okmulgee when stage shows were all the rage. She was a lifelong teacher of dance, operating studios in Tulsa, Okmulgee, Idabel, Henryetta, and Oklahoma City. She also operated the Phi Delta Academy of Dance in Stillwater for 22 years, retiring in 1998. She was a member of: the Dance Masters of America; Checcetii Council of America; and Texas and Chicago dance associations. She married Willard C. Neal of Beggs in 1940.

Preceding her in death were: her husband; son, Edward Charles Neal; daughter, Linda Neal; one sister; and one brother.

Survivors include: daughter and son-in-law, Delta and Tom Truby of Okmulgee; step sister, Arletta Anderson of Oklahoma City; five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; one niece, Iris Eby of Stillwater; and two nephews, James Mears of Tulsa and Cecil Mears of Oklahoma City.

Interment was at Beggs Cemetery.

Gratitude

God bless you, as you helped our family in our time of sorrow. Gratitude is extended to the ministers, singers, and all friends and family. We want to extend a special thank you to: Grace Baptist Church and Pastor Wallace Gambler; Wetumka Indian Baptist Church; Middle Creek No. 1 Baptist Church and members; Kialegee Tribal Town mekko and staff; and Trinity Hope and their nurses.

Thank you for all your prayers and kindness.

Melford "Sonny" Hobia Family

Religion

Springfield Church annual gospel singing

OKEMAH — Springfield Methodist Church is holding its 20th annual memorial gospel singing on May 25 beginning at 7 p.m. Springfield Methodist Church members will serve as the masters of ceremonies. Those attending are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. Concessions will be available. From Okemah drive two miles south on state highway 27, four miles east, and two miles south.

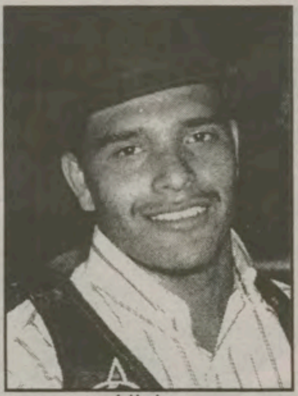
War

continued from page 3

news reports in their need for reassurance.

The reality of war did not set in until seeing tape of prisoners of war from the 507th Maintenance, said the elder Fixico. Media coverage of the perils of war has made him more concerned for his son, but it has also been reassuring at the same time. "At least, in some ways, it gives you a little comfort in knowing what's going on."

Another tribal member who is already experiencing battle in the desserts of Iraq is Joe Hicks of Okmulgee. The 23 year old is serving with the 101st Army Airborne Division. His father, Louis, said his son is in good spirits. "I received a letter from him yesterday and he is fine," said Hicks, "they (the unit) are approaching it like a job."


Hicks

In some ways, Hicks can relate to what his son is likely experiencing in battle. Over 30 years ago he was fighting in Vietnam. "Things are different now," said Hicks, "I just tell him to be careful."

Hicks, who is a principal at Ryal School, feels the war in Iraq is justified. His school is even planning a "Red, White and Blue Day" to show their support.

For some tribal citizens, such as Marine veterans Ken Davis and Harry Long, the war on Iraq is a mixed bag.

Davis, who received the Bronze Star for heroic service while in Kuwait, blames the senior President Bush for not allowing the military to complete its job in 1991.

"We should have finished it in 1991. It would have been less bloody and less complicated. They knew they couldn't trust him (Hussein) then and now were back 12 years later doing the same thing."

Although he does not support the war effort, he is "100 percent behind every serviceman over there in Iraq."

Long has seen his share of war, having served in the Pacific during the second World War. He feels the that the war won't be over anytime soon.

"Before they (U.S.) invaded Iraq, I was against going into combat," said Long, "but now that its happened my concern is for the innocent children and people who are not in uniform that will be killed and our own troops — that some of them will be dying."

When asked, the retired Methodist minister offered this stark advice to young American soldiers in preparation for battle. "The advice I would give is that now that you have had your training, don't back off from that training. Do the best you can and accept the fact that you may die. With that in mind, go ahead and do your duty."

Marriages

Gee and Hicks marry

FORT DEFIANCE, Ariz. — Debra Elaine Gee and Curtis Ray Hicks exchanged wedding vows on Oct. 12 at Fort Defiance and on Oct. 19 at Belvin Baptist Church in Okmulgee.

Johnny Gee performed the traditional Navajo wedding ceremony and Rev. Wayne Harjo performed the church ceremony.

Parents of the bride are Estherlene and the late Billy Jim Gee of Okmulgee. Parents of the groom are Agnes Hicks and Hanson Hicks, both of Okemah.

Quannah Gee of Phoenix, Ariz., sister of the bride, served as maid of honor. Paula Julian of Washington, D.C., friend of the bride, and Jennifer Giff of Chandler, Ariz., friend of the bride, served as bridesmaids.

Johnny Hooper, friend of the groom, served as the best man. Walter Celestine, of Houston, Texas, friend of the groom, and Randall Gee of Tahlequah, brother of the groom, served as groomsmen.

The flowergirl was Kara Hicks, daughter of the groom, of Lawrence, Kan. The ushers were Eric Hicks, son of the groom, of Lawrence, Kan. and Randall Simmons, friend of the bride, of Phoenix, Ariz.

Gee and Hicks

The couple spent their honeymoon in Melbourne Beach, Fla., and are now making their home in Okmulgee.

Lowe and Lindsey marry

YEAGER, Okla. — Anna Marie Lowe and Mose Daniel Lindsey were united in marriage on Dec. 7 at Wewoka Indian United Methodist Church

Rev. Joseph Lowe, the father of the bride, performed the ceremony.

Mrs. Lindsey is the daughter of Rev. Joseph and Louise Lowe of Okmulgee and Mr. Lindsey is the son of Millie Hill of Okemah.

The groom's grandparents are the late Tony and Irene Hill. The bride's grandparents are the late Joe and Hepsy Lowe and Ed Boydstun and the late Viva Boydstun.

The maid of honor was Amy Bigpond of Sapulpa and bridesmaids were: Toni Hill, cousin of the groom; Tracey Lowe, sister of the bride; and Anita Lowe, sister of the bride, all of Okmulgee.

The best man was Joe Jackson of Eufaula. Groomsmen were: Chris Hill of Okmulgee, cousin of the groom; Jeffery Hill of Okmulgee, cousin of the groom, and Floyd Osborne of Eufaula, brother of the groom.

Candlelighters were Danetta Marshall of Holdenville and Clayton Campbell of Broken Arrow.

Flower girls were Rachael Franks and Leah Scott, both of Holdenville, cousins of the bride.

The ring bearer was Tyler Hill of Okmulgee, cousin of the groom.

Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey

Michael Anthamatten of Broken Arrow sang a Kenny Chesney song titled "Me and You."

Special music was provided by Linda Bigpond.

The couple, who are both of Muscogee (Creek) descent, reside in Okmulgee.

Notices

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Crews help with space shuttle recovery

WASHINGTON D.C.— Department of the Interior's Acting Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Aurene Martin applauds the American Indian fire fighting crews that were dispatched to assist with the recovery of the space shuttle Columbia, and its crew. The shuttle broke apart during reentry Feb. 1, and was spread over a 500 square-mile area, much of it heavily wooded.

"During times of national tragedies or natural disasters, American Indians are always willing to help our Nation by providing manpower, financial assistance or spiritual comfort to those in need," Acting Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Aurene Martin said. "We are very proud of the fire fighters and other American Indians who [helped] with this critical effort."

Alerted to the fact that they were being dispatched to the area on Feb. 4, 17 members of the Cherokee Firedancers, 15 from the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and two from the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma along with fire crews from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Iowa Tribe and Pawnee Tribe were ready to roll by Feb. 5.

The request for assistance came from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The crews were mobilized as part of a four-crew module that was dispatched by the Arkansas-Oklahoma Interagency Coordination Center located in Hot Springs, Ark. This center handles crew mobilization efforts for both the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs-sponsored tribal crews from the State of Oklahoma. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation fire crew is sponsored by the Bureau of Indian Affairs; the other three fire crews are under contract with the U.S. Forest Service to spend the summer fighting fires across the U.S. The space shuttle Columbia recovery marks the first time the crews have been called on to help with a national disaster.

The fire crews traveled to Nacogdoches County, Texas where they setup camp in the 179 acre Angelina National Forest and worked for 14 days searching for metal debris.

Editor's note: A fire fighter for the Fort Belknap Tribes of Montana found the data recorder for the downed space shuttle Columbia on March 19.

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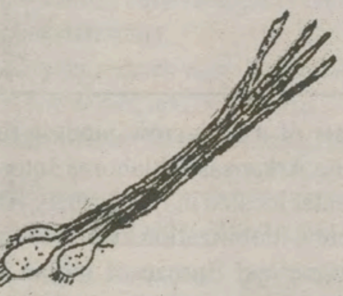

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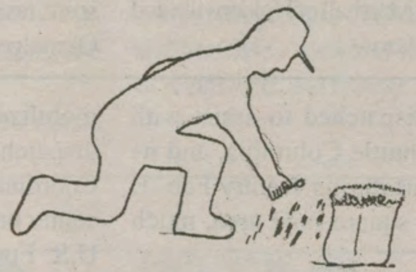

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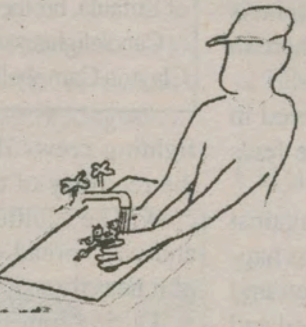

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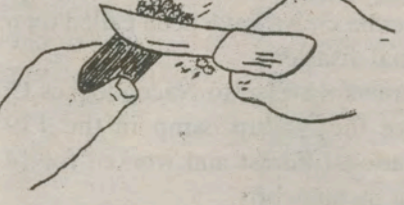

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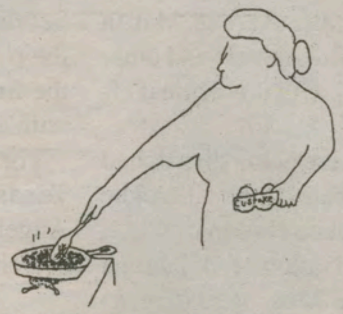

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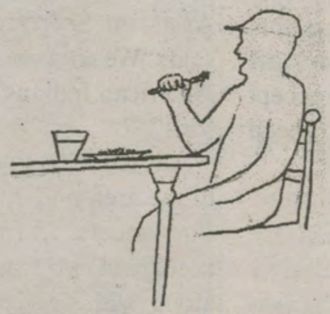

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Creek girls sings her way to success

by Gerald Wofford

A chance to live one's dream is a goal some people never achieve. At the young age of twelve, Muscogee (Creek) Citizen Taylor Osborn is getting one of those rare chances to do so. Osborn recently competed at the North American Country Music Association International (NACMAI) competition at Pigeon Forge, Tennessee inside the Louise Mandrell Theatre. The event proved successful for Osborn who walked away with 'Vocalist of the Year' awards in her age group of 13.

Osborn

Taylor competed in the Traditional Country category of the competition. She chose the songs 'Blue' and 'Walkin after Midnight' for the vocalist portion and 'Country Sunshine' and 'Rocky Top' for the entertainment portion of the competition.

Osborn admits the idea of singing on the big stage was nerve wracking at first, but soon overcame her shyness and is now comfortable performing anywhere. Like at the Wayne Theatre in Ada where in 2001, she was selected as one of the top five entertainers of the year in the 16 and under age category. Taylor also sings in her home Church-The First Assembly of God Church in Wetumka.

Osborn's talent has lead her to become part of an organization called the 'Oklahoma Kids' which is comprised of youth from around the state that perform at public events. Osborn is also a member of the Country Music Singers Association.

"I like to sing two different styles," says Osborn. "Especially Country and Gospel, but probably a little more emphasis on Country. Taylor doesn't forget her traditional roots either singing songs like 'Amazing Grace' in the MuscogeeLanguage. Taylor will be performing in the Gospel portion of the Creek Nation Festival in June.

Osborn's grandparents are Thomas and 'Pinky' Yahola, Cass and Obie Osborn, all of Wetumka.

Taylor's mother, Thomasine, is proud of her daughter's dedication to her craft. " I must admit I never expected this type of success for her so early," said Thomasine. "Me and my husband, Jeff, support her in anyway we can."

The young Creek singer's plans are to play softball, attend college, keep on singing, and hopefully make it big someday.

By the looks of things, she is off to a great start.

Language.

Sequoyah claims state title

Front row: Nathan Cornell; AJ Drywater; Derrick Ross; TJ Hooper; Tadd Crow; Justin Marshall; and Heath Horawa; Back row: Josh Caughman; John Bird; Joe Byrd; Wes Nofire; Jeff Elizondo; JJ Samples; Solomon Horsechief; and Tucson Griggs

Sequoyah High School, an all Indian Public Education Institution located in Tahleuqah, Oklahma defeated Metro Christian of Tulsa on March 15 to claim the Oklahoma Class 3A State Boys Basketball Championship. It was the first time that Sequoyah had claimed such an award in Basketball and the occassion brought out Native American pride in the area. Not only during the Championship run, but for the entire season.

Larry Grigg, Head Basketball Coach and Athletic Director of Sequoyah High School has seen the team set goals all year. Winning Tournaments and then going on to become the Northeast Lakes Conference Co-Champions while also claiming the District, Regional, and Area IV Championships.

The team was comprised of many unique players of different tribal affiliations. One member, according to Coach Grigg, is Muscogee (Creek).

Creek kids learn their culture

On April 4, Children of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community's Headstart and Child Development Centers participated in 'Native Planting Day', an event that educated and helped the kids create their own garden.

The garden is located on the property of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center, (TCIC) at 8611 South Union in Tulsa. The Children, along with community and tribal member, will be responsible for the cultivation, and harvesting of this unique endeavor.

Roselyn Bunny, Samantha Gonzales, Alisa Cochran and Mariah Bowers plant

Ben Yahola is a member of the Redstick Vision Keepers, an organization that primarily sponsored the event, along with TCIC and Tulsa Community College's Native American Student Alliance. "The mission of our group is to keep our ancestor's vision alive through cultural, environmental, and health education," said Yahola. Yahola felt that teaching children about the land was one way of seeing this vision come to pass.

Tribal citizen express appreciation

Editor:

My name is Katie Barnett. I am a 78 year old, full blood Creek Indian. I was born and have lived on this family allotment in Okfuskee County most of my life. I have a new house to enjoy as I reach this stage of my life. I want to thank those who made it possible.

I am thankful always for God's blessing. Thanks to Rev. Alex and Mattie Lowe, my family, and friends as they joined me in blessing my house.

Thanks to A.D. Ellis, Second Chief. I appreciate your assistance and always making time for me when I call you.

Thanks to Housing Authority staff for making it possible for me to have a new house and the time spent in setup and building the nice stairs and ramp.

Thanks to Ron, Don, and Harold Murphy for helping me furnish my house.

I just want to say thank you, thank you, thank you.

Katie Barnett, Dustin

Woman requests help locating biological father

Editor:

My name is Earnestine J. Beaver and I recently received a letter answering my request for a subscription to *The Muscogee Nation News*, but was denied because they were unable to verify my citizenship on the tribal records.

The reason I was requesting a subscription to *The Muscogee Nation News* is because I've been trying to locate my biological father who's name is, Earnest Junior Beaver, and on my birth certificate it indicates he is Creek Indian, and by placing an ad in your paper I thought it might help me locate or get information on how I could locate him or family members or anyone who might help me.

If you could help me with any information I would deeply appreciate it. Send any information to Earnestine J. Beaver, P.O. Box 231, Antlers, Oklahoma 74523.

Earnestine Beaver, Antlers

Citizen has questions reguarding contract health

Editor:

On January 20, 2003, I seriously burned my hand. The EMSA people told me to go to the Hillcrest Hospital, as it was the only place there was a burn center. First I went to the emergency room where they gave me pain killer, tetanus shot and I.V., then they sent me on up to the burn center.

I did what I was supposed to do as far as contract health, which was calling within 72 hours. They wanted all my Indian ID, which I took to them being in sever pain, but did what I had to do. Then I was notified I had to bring or have Hillcrest show something that I was treated there, I did that. Then I was notified that they couldn't pay on the visits to the burn center. I though since this was all one visit to the emergency room and then sent to the burn center by the emergency room personnel and then all follow up visits to the burn center was considered one thing. I had to have dressings changes twice a day, which my husband did; however, I had to go back to the burn center every other day and one weekend I was instructed to go Saturday and Sunday.

Contract health wanted something to show my visits, which I took to them. They informed me they couldn't pay for any of the visits since I had already been treated and had no referral. Now, I want to know how can I get a referral for every other day when it takes a week to get one referral for anything? On Wednesday, February 12, I am scheduled for one more visit, which should be my last. Then I will see the doctor and he will see if I need any further treatment. I was told I will see the physical therapist and will probably need to be fitted for a glove, which is required for serious burns. Contract health says they can give me a referral for that visit but it wouldn't be approved until February 13th, one day after my appointment. So what good is that?

Then contract health called me and told me I need to make an appointment with Dr. Baird at Okmulgee clinic before I could get a referral. I called to make an appointment and they told me Dr. Baird said I needed to make an appointment and would be seen only by appointment because I hadn't seen her before, even though I have a chart there and go to the dental clinic regularly. Well guess what? Dr. Baird cannot see me until May. They didn't tell me what year.

Now I have Medicare but they only pay 80% of what they approve. I thought I could depend on Indian health care to take care of me. But I see right now I can't. There is something seriously wrong with their system and it needs to be corrected. I know there are probably others that have been caught in the same position as I am. My husband and I are both under Medicare and social security, so there's not much money when my husband is under doctor's care too.

Martha G. Davis, Mounds

February District Court filings

Civil Actions:

- Albert Messer vs. William Jesse
- Muskogee Regional Med. Ctr. vs. Lance Bohanon
- Muskogee Regional Med. Ctr. vs. Eva Sebree
- Beneficial Okla Inc. vs. Frieda Fields

Protective Orders:

- Sarah Perez vs. Colleen Williams
- Roxanne Jones vs. Marcus Lawrence
- Minnifee Delgado vs. Manuel Perez

please see **FILINGS**..., page 7

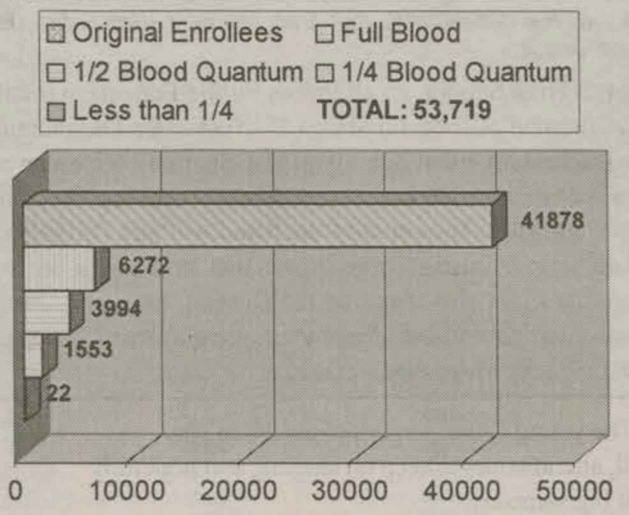
Second Opinion

Hello friends and fellow citizens, instead of my regular column today I have decided to present you with some interesting tribal statistics. *Mvto*.

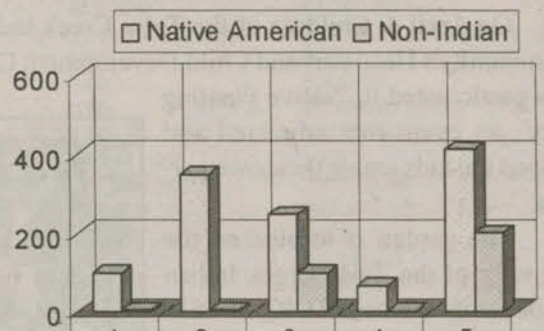
Departments/Entities

1 — Housing Authority
2 — Administration
3 — Health Administration
4 — Business Enterprises
5 — Gaming

CITIZENSHIP BY BLOOD QUANTUM



MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION EMPLOYEE COUNT



1,489 Employees	1	2	3	4	5
☐ Native American	99	350	248	67	412
☐ Non-Indian	4	5	100	3	201

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the

January 25 quarterly session.

Absent were: **Roger Barnett**; Creek District; **Dwayne Lowe,** Tukvpvtce District; **Robert Hufft,** Tulsa;

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• approved as amended (16-6-0) Tribal Resolution 03-001, authorizing the principal chief to execute a special services agreement between Kelley & Associates and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Tom Pickering,** McIntosh; **Tom McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Sandra Parish,** Muskogee; **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee; **Dave Lewis,** Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson,** Okmulgee; **George Almerigi,** Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters,** Okmulgee; **David Nichols,** Okmulgee; **Thomas Yahola,** Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields,** Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible,** Tulsa; **Ronald Cleghorn,** Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley,** Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill,** Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

voting no were: **Judy Aaron,** Creek; **Phyllis Warrington,** Creek; **Nancy Watson,** Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson,** Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden,** Okfuskee and **Cherrah Quiett,** Tulsa;

• approved (19-3-0) TR 03-004, authorizing the principal chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in Okmulgee county, Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; and **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved as amended (22-0-0) TR 03-007, authorizing the Prinicpal Chief to enter into an agreement for reimbursement for a feasibility study for the development of Mackey Sandbar; authorizing negotiations with Nevada Gold & Casinos, Inc. related to a potential development services agreement; and requiring execution of a non-disclosure and confidentiality agreement;

• approved (21-1-0) TR 03-008, approving the selection of a contractor and authorizing the housing authority to execute a contract for the construction of nine (9) new housing units;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved (21-0-1) TR 03-009, approving the selection of contractors and authorizing the housing authority to execute contracts for rehabilitation repair work;

abstain were: **Jackson,** Okfuskee;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 03-002, adopting the rules of procedures of the national council;

• returned to committee (13-9-0) NCA 03-004, authorizing the appropriation of the fiscal year 2001 administrative capacity building funds made available to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Indian Reservation Roads Program to further develop the transportation planning program;

• failed (8-14-0) NCA 03-007, repealing NCA 99-83 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation adding professional engineers to the list of professionals who may be compensation of the Prinicpal Chief and repealing section 103 of NCA 96-23), as amended by NCA 02-096, §102, to remove the prohibition against payment of salaries in excess of the Principal Chief's salary;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (20-2-0) NCA 03-008, authorizing a special appropriation to Muscogee (Creek) citizen for the assistance in drilling and installation of a water well;

voting no were: **Almerigi**, Okmulgee and **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved (21-1-0) NCA 03-011, amending NCA 99-22 (the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal trade & commerce authority control over management and expenditure of funds;

voting no was **Aaron**, Creek;

• approved (14-8-0) NCA 03-014, repealing NCA 99-118 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing a fixed compensation of the Principal Chief and repealing NCA 91-101, NCA 83-46, and any other legislation in conflict with this act) to establish a fixed compensation for the Principal Chief;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 03-016, authorizing a special appropriation to the Twin Hills Indian community for start-up cost to operate a community smokeshop as an economic development project;

• failed (10-12-0) NCA 03-018, establishing a tribal partnership public relations fund and appropriating funds for said purpose;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Watson,** Okfuskee; **Jackson,** Okfuskee; **Golden,** Okfuskee; **Johnson,** Okmulgee; **Almerigi,** Okmulgee; **Yahola,** Tukvpvtce; **Bible,** Tulsa; **Cleghorn,** Tulsa; **Kelley,** Tulsa; **and Gillespie,** Wagoner;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 03-021, authorizing a special appropriation to a Muscogee (Creek) citizen for financial assistance;

representative **Sandra Golden** was excused;

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 03-025, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Okmulgee, County, Oklahoma to be used for economic development purposes;

voting no was **Jackson**, Okfuskee;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 03-026, appropriating funds for the purchase of a truck, grader, and trailer for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal driveways program;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 03-027, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H club for the establishment of a sheep program;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 03-028, authorizing a special appropriation to the management information services program for the purchase of interest security computers;

• approved (20-1-) NCA 03-029, appropriating funds for the total completion of the Duck Creek Indian Gaming renovation project;

voting no was **Parish**, Muskogee;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 03-030, appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of funds for the Oklahoma City (Muskogee) association to replace and upgrade the heating/air conditioning unit for its building that serves as a meeting place for the members of the community;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 03-032, amending NCA 01-163 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation enacting a marriage law to codified in title 6, chapter two of the code of the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation)

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 03-033, appropriating funds for the potential reimbursement of costs of a feasibility study related to the potential development of the Mackey Sandbar;

• approved (17-4-0) NCA 03-034, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation election board to conduct a special election for the proposed constitutional amendment;

voting no were: **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Bible**, Tulsa;

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 03-036, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) citizen;

voting no was **Almerigi**, Okmulgee.

Feb. 22 regular session

Absent were: **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District; **Dwayne Lowe,** Tukvpvtce District; and **Lola Fields,** Tukvpvtce District

representative **Fields**, Tukvpvtce District arrived, making attendance at 23 present with two absent;

Second speaker **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

• approved (23-0-0) TR 03-003, approving the annual charter agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Indian nations council, boy scouts of America and approving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorseman tribal police explorer manual;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 03-005, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an oil and gas lease on 57.14 acres of tribal trust property located in McIntosh county;

• approved (23-0-0) TR 03-006, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an oil and gas lease on 131.14 acres of tribal trust property located in McIntosh county;

• approved (12-11-0) TR 03-013, confirming the nomination of **John Freeman** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation enterprise board of directors;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson, Okfuskee**; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (15-8-0) TR 03-014, confirming the nomination of **James F. Williams** to serve on the Muscogee Nation enterprise board of directors;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie,** Wagoner;

• approved (13-8-2) TR 03-015, confirming the nomination of **Paula Perkins-Willits** to serve on the Gaming Operations Authority Board;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; and **Nichols**, Okmulgee;

abstain were: **Almerigi**, Okmulgee and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• failed on the floor (8-15-0) NCA 03-004, authorizing the Principal Chief to conduct a special election to amend the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Bible**, Tulsa;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 03-019, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program;

• approved as amended (23-0-0) NCA 03-020; appropriating funds for creation and implementation of a lighthorse explorer post within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 03-022, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Creek Nation Higher Education program to provide more educational awards to qualifying students;

please see **Government**..., page 7

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., May 7 and 21;
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., May 1 and 15;
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., May 1 and 15;
- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., May 6 and 20; and
- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., May 6.

Applications for energy assistance being taken

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services department will start their electric assistance for the tribal energy assistance and low income home energy assistance programs.

Walk-in appointments will start May 12. The following is basic information required to complete the application process: CDIB/ citizenship cards, social security cards, income verification for each household member, and the electric bill.

The electric bill must be in the applicant or spouse's name. Additional documentation will be required for students 18 years or older, and for individuals caring for minor children other than their own. Past participants who completed the pre-application process in April do not need to come in at this time. For more information, contact the Social Service Department at (918) 756-8700 or 800-482-1979 ext. 279.

Creek Nation Summer Youth program

OKMULGEE — The summer youth employment program is designed to provide native Americans between the ages of 16 and 21 with work experience and the opportunity to develop life skills.

Applicants call to apply and those determined eligible are provided with a summer job in their local community. All participants work forty hours a week. The eight–week program helps young people gain experience, training, responsibility and money.

All tribal affiliations welcome; no educational requirements; work around summer classes; must reside inside the eight county boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; must meet income guidelines.

All applications will be taken over the phone. Applications will be taken Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m to 5:00 p.m from March 10 until April 25.

To apply call Muscogee (Creek) Nation Employment & Training at (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-428-1979 exts. 623 or 625.

Mvskoke senior citizen upcoming events

OKMULGEE — On May 5, Montie Deere will be the guest speaker at the senior citizen's meeting. He is the attorney for the elders of Creek Nation and will answer many questions.

The meeting will be held at elderly nutrition center at 10 a.m.

Food distribution program sites, times, and dates

OKMULGEE— The following lists food distribution site locations and dates.

Times for the distribution of food are from 9 to 11 a.m. unless otherwise listed.

New and emergency applicants may receive food from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Okmulgee warehouse located at 1010 E. Eufaula.

Recipients that missed distribution at their regularly scheduled site may retrieve food at the Okmulgee warehouse; this arrangement requires that appointments be made by calling (918) 756-3467; or 1 (800) 482-1979, ext. 400.

The Okmulgee warehouse is closed on the last business day of each month.

The center locations and distribution dates are:

Koweta Community Center; one-fourth of a mile north of stateway 51 on Ben Lumpkin Road and one-eight of a mile east; 8:30 to 11 a.m, first and third Tuesdays

Glenpool Community Center; one block east of state highway 75 and 141st street; 9:30 to 11:30 a.m, first Wednesday;

Bristow Community Center; 121 W. Lincoln; 9:30 to 11:30 a.m first Thursdays;

Eufaula Community Center; 800 Forest Ave.; second and fourth; Tuesday;

Sapulpa Community Center; 1020 N. Brown St.; 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; second Wednesdays;

Checotah Community Center; 830 N. Broadway second and fourth Thursdays;

Wetumka Community Center; 608 N. Creek; 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; second Fridays

Okemah Community Center; 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St; 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; third Wednesdays;

Holdenville Community Center; 224 E. Poplar third Thursdays;

Dustin Community Center; corner of Sparks and Broadway; fourth Wednesday;

Weleetka Community Center; 603 S. Chickasaw; 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.; second Friday;

Okmulgee Main Office; 1010 E Eufaula; 9 a.m to 3 p.m, first and third Mondays

Cultural Day to be held in May

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be hosting a "Cultural Day" on May 1 from 10 a.m to 2 p.m located at the tribal complex on Hwy 75 and Loop 56, south of the mound building.

Meet the Mvskoke Nation royalty and learn about the pre-removal of Creeks storytelling.

Also demonstrations on: Sak-ko-nep-ke; a-bus-dee making; ball sticks; stick ball game; traditional clothing; loom & finger weaving; sour cornbread; basket weaving; grape dumplings; blue bread; creek hymn singing; beadwork; flute; ash; pottery; sofkey; lye; stomp dance; frybread; corn grinding; wild onions & eggs; and turtle shells.

This event is free! For more information please call the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Office of Child Care at (918) 758-1463 or 1-800-205-3705, you may ask for Cindy, Melody, Newman, Faith or Jo

2003 Mvskoke Princess pageants

OKMULGEE — The little miss and senior miss pageants will be held June 17 at 7 p.m and Junior miss mvskoke and miss mvskoke on June 19 at 7 p.m.

All pageants will be held in the Mound building located at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal complex at Hwy 75 & Loop 56.

For an application or more information contact the pageant committee at (918) 758-1463 or 1-800-205-3705.

Deadline for applications will be May 30th.

Haskell graduates of 1950 to reunite

LAWRENCE, KS. — A reunion of Haskell graduates of the 1950's is being planned to be held May 8, 9, 10 and 11 at Haskell Indian Nations University.

The reunion is planned by the graduates of 1950 through 1955; however, all other graduates of Haskell are invited.

The four-day event will include a dance to big band sounds of the fifties at Holidome in Lawrence, McDonald Drive, and will culminate with a farewell breakfast on May 11 on campus in the cafeteria.

For banquet reservations $25 and dance ticket $10 make check or money order to National Haskell Alumni Association and mail to Nellie Buffalomeat, NHAA Treasurer, P.O. Box 442361, Lawrence, KS 66046.

For additional information contact:

Louis Taylor, President National Haskell Alumni Association, 2108 Stoneham Place, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120 or email: LJT50HI@AOL.COM or call (505) 832-6522.

Golf scramble: May 10 call Lee Pahcoddy at (785) 979-2344; motel specials for Haskell grads: Holidome $69 per day (785) 841-7077 or Hampton Inn: $65 (785) 841-4994.

17th Annual Wacoche reunion scheduled

MUSKOGEE — The 17th annual Wacoche reunion to be held on May 24 from 11 a.m to 5 p.m at Bacone College in the Wacoche cafeteria.

Please bring a covered dish. For more information contact Flore Jackson (918) 758-0654.

Muscogee Creek Nation Senior Olympics

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be holding a senior olympics on May 16, opening ceremony will beginning at 9 a.m.

Events scheduled are: Horseshoes, pool tournament, shuffleboard, dominoes, jacks, skip-bo tournament, rolling pin throw, basketball shoot, wheelchair races and walking races.

All seniors are invited to participate. Ribbons will be given for first, second and third place. Lunch will be served. Bring a lawn chair.

For more information contact Gloria Bezzell at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 398.

please see **NOTICES**..., page 7

"Vandergueard of the Land"

In the March issue of the *Muscogee Nation News* a painting entitled *"Vanguard of the Land"* was featured. The painting by artist Talmadge Davis featured three Muscogee Veterans representing the Gulf War, Vietnam, and World War II.

500 prints of the painting will be set aside specifically for sale to Muscogee (Creek) Citizens until June 1. As of April 10, 416 Lithograph prints have been bought and various sizes of the prints can still be purchased. For more information contact the Red Sticks Print Office at #(918) 787-4074. The mailing address is P.O. Box 147, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447 or log on to their web-site at www.creekcombatveteran.org

Girl places in Leadership conference

OKMULGEE — Monique Harjo, a senior at Grove high school competed in the BPA state leadership conference held at OSU–Okmulgee.

She placed second in Integrated Office applications which qualifies her to compete in BPA Nationals held April 29 at Dallas, TX. Monique also, placed second in the FBLA State Leadership Conference held in Oklahoma City in Word Processing II, which qualifies her to compete in the FBLA Nationals to be held June 24 thru 27 in Dallas, TX.

Monique ranks in the top percentage of her senior class. She is members of the FBLA and Key Club where she served as secretary for one year; BPA and served as VP; Heritage club and she participated in the High school Heroes, this organization educates elementary students on the dangers of smoking. Harjo, was nominated and accepted for who's who and national honor roll.

She is the daughter of Racheal Lowe of Bryant and the late Victor Harjo of Strothers.

Grandparents are John and the late Minnie Lowe of Bryant and Charlie and the late Neoma Harjo of Strothers.

Accomplishments

Citizen graduates from boot camp

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Simeon Lee Jr. has recently graduated from Marine Core boot camp on Feb. 28.

He is the son of Elise Tecumseh and Simeon Lee of Henryetta.

Maternal grandparents are Cora Harjo and the late George W. Harjo of Sasakwa.

Paternal grandparents are the late Solomon and Alice Lee of Henryetta.

Lee

Lee is currently stationed in Fort Lenoard Wood, Missouri. He is training to be a military police officer.

Simeon is a 1998 graduate from Wilson high school. He is married to Theresa of Henryetta and they are expecting their first child in May.

Births and birthdays

JALEN JACOBS

OKMULGEE — Jalen Ty Jacobs was born on April 6 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Johnny "BJ" and Monica Jacobs.

He weighed 6 pounds and 3 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Daria and Johnie Hicks of Okemah.

Paternal grandmother is the late Linna Jacobs.

Paternal great grandmother is Sissie Lewis of Hanna.

Jacobs

He has one sister, Emily age three.

ALLISON LANDIS

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Allison Brynne Landis was born November 19 at St. Rose Domician Hospital to William and Sandra Landis II.

She weighed seven pounds, two ounces, and was eighteen inches in length.

Allison is of Muscogee Creek descent. She is a member of Broken Arrow tribal town and belongs to the Wind clan.

Maternal great-grandmother is Bernice Morton Archer of Council Hill.

Paternal grandparents are William and Jean Landis of Jonesboro, Arkansas.

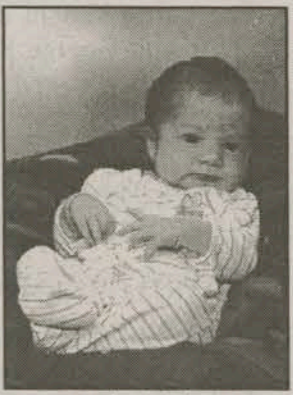
JACOB TODD

TULSA — Jacob Cyrus Todd was born September 6 at St. Francis Hospital to Tricia and Dustin Todd.

He weighed nine pounds, twelve ounces, and was twenty-one inches in length.

His maternal grandparents are Cheri Haney and Ira Fields, Jr.

Paternal grandparents are Pam and Tommy Smith and Dale and Janet Todd.


J. Todd

Maternal great-grandparents are Pauline Haney and the late Woodrow Haney and Marie Fields and the late Ira Fields, Sr.

Jacob has a sister, Serena, who is five.

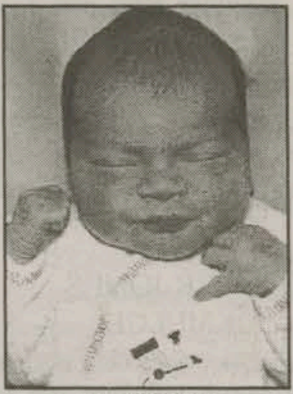
HUNTER WASHINGTON

OKMULGEE — Hunter Yahv Washington was born January 22 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Diane Beasley and Robert Washington, Jr.

He weighed eight pounds, two ounces, and was twenty inches in length.

His maternal grandparents are Cheryl Grayson of Beggs and Freeman Lowe of Okmulgee.

Paternal grandparents are Robert and Irene Washington of Okmulgee.


Washington

Washington is a member of the bird clan and the son of the bear clan.

He has a big sister, Christyn.

Girl celebrates fifth birthday

TULSA — Serena Todd celebrated her fifth birthday at Chuck E. Cheese with friends and family. The festivities included pizza, pop, sweets, cake, and games.

She is the daughter of Tricia and Dustin Todd of Tulsa.

Her maternal grandparents are Cheri Haney and Ira Fields, Jr.

Paternal grandparents are Pam and Tommy Smith and Dale and Janet Todd.

S. Todd

Serena has one brother, Jacob.

Sapulpan celebrates 2nd birthday

TULSA — Sage Whitehead celebrated her second birthday February 1 at Chuck E. Cheese.

Those attending were: her parents, Chessa Tieah and Orlando Whitehead; cousins, Jacob Cooper, Johnathan Whitehead, Amy Momen, Tonya Tieah, Dustin; and many friends and family.

Her grandparents are Steve and Sharon Whitehead and Chester Tieah.

Whitehead

Girl celebrates fifth birthday

BOWLEGS — Nicole B. Withers celebrated her fifth birthday on April 22 at her home.

She is the daughter of Michael and Barbara Withers.

Her grandparents are Lucy Sewell of Holdenville and the late Archie Sewell and Bob and Betty Withers of Bowlegs.

She is the great-granddaughter of the late Lillian Scott, Woodrow and Betty Stringfellow and the late Lorene Stringfellow, and the great-great granddaughter of the late Opal Stringfellow, all of Holdenville.

Withers

Newspaper seeks submissions for senior high and college graduates

OKMULGEE — The staff of *The Muscogee Nation News* is seeking submissions from Muscogee senior high and college graduates for its annual graduates' section.

The section will run in the June issue of *The MNN*. To have a graduation announcement published in this annual section include:

- the roll number of the graduate (if the roll number is not known, include the Social Security number or date of birth and the graduate's full name);
- a focused, color or black and white photograph with good contrast (photos are optional); and
- include information such as: school name; and city; clan; tribal town; parents; grandparents; awards; activities; and plans and adhere to a word limit around 115.

The deadline for submissions is May 30. Mail submission to: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or e-mail to: comm4@ocevnet.org. Electronically mailed submissions must be saved as a Word Perfect document.

For any question contact the Communications dept. at (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979 ext 327.

DANIEL BARNETT, SR.

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Daniel Barnett, Sr. were held February 18 at the West Eufaula Baptist Church with Rev. Belvin Hill officiating and assisted by Rev. Rudolph Colbert.

Daniel was born at Vivian on June 29, 1925 to Samuel and Nellie Porter Barnett. He entered the U.S. Army in August 1943 and was honorably discharged February 1946. His tour of duty included Northern France, Ardennes Rhineland. He received the WWII Victory Ribbon, Good conduct medal, EAME Theater ribbon, three Bronze Service Stars, and Purple Heart. He attended school at the Euchee Boarding School and was retired from Civil Service. He was a member of the Eufaula VFW Post 8798, DAV and was affiliated with the West Eufaula Baptist Church. He married Jennie Mae Beaver in 1946.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; wife; son, Daniel "Sonny" Barnett Jr.; brothers, Timie and Samuel Barnett Jr.; and sister, Janie Horne.

Survivors include: twelve children, Regina Roberts of Ardmore, Janice LeClair of the home, Russell Barnett, Nellie Hallum, Millicent Barnett, and Acee Barnett all of Eufaula, Jennie Grimm of Checotah, Rodney Rocky Sr. and Linda Barnett of Gore, Lynn Barnett of Kingfisher, Becky Barnett of Hanna, Elnora Ruth of Mustang, and Angela Barnett of Lawrence, Kansas; brother, Charlie Barnett of Iowa Park, Texas; sister, Hattie Beaver of Eufaula; thirty-four grandchildren; and eleven great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers include: Robin and Ryan Roberts; Brian and Ronnie Hallum; Rodney Barnett Jr.; Brandon and Christopher Burris; William Washington Jr.; Adam Washington; Derek Manley and Daniel Barnett.

Honorary pallbearers were West Eufaula Baptist Church and Tuskegee Church members.

Interment was at the Tuskegee Cemetery. Military honors were conducted by the Creek Nation Honor Guard.

JOSEPHINE BROWN

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Josephine "Jody" Scott Brown were held March 12 at Gregg Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Gary Wade officiating.

She was born August 7, 1942 at Muskogee to Jack and Mary Cook Scott. Brown was of the Baptist Faith and was affiliated with the Tuskegee Baptist Church. She was a homemaker and was proud to be a Creek Indian.

Josephine married Johnny Brown in April 1964 at Okmulgee.

She was preceded in death by her father and a son, Johnny Brown.

Survivors include: husband, of the home; two children, Kevin Brown of Catoosa and Cochanna Barnes of Estes Park, Colorado; mother; sister, Mary Shelton of Gatlinburg, Tennessee; one niece; and six grandchildren.

Interment was at Greenwood Cemetery in Eufaula.

BLUFORD FARRIS

OWASSO — Funeral services for Bluford Miller Farris were held February 6 at First Baptist Church with Rev. Dr. Roger Ferguson officiating.

He was born April 25, 1914, in Okmulgee to Edwin and Ida T. Miller Farris. Bluford graduated from Okmulgee High School and continued his education at Oklahoma A&M, graduating in 1940 with a Bachelor of Science degree.

He married the former Wilma Dunaway on October 6, 1946, in Haskell. They had made their home in Owasso since 1973. Farris started his working career with Spartan Aeronautics in Tulsa as a property manager. He spent most of his working life as a job placement director with the Oklahoma State Employment Commission. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Owasso.

Preceding him in death were two brothers, Roscoe and George Farris; and a sister, Agnes Berry.

Survivors include: his wife; twin daughters, Dorothy Fuller of Austin, Texas and Theresa Dial of Pocatello, Idaho; son, Gary Farris of Collinsville; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

EDWARD GREEN

SHAWNEE — Funeral services for Edward Green were held January 24 at First Indian Baptist Church with Houston Tiger officiating.

He was born December 2, 1964 in Claremore to Polly Green Buckley. Green attended school in Tulsa. He was a foreman roofer for more than ten years with Mr. Stop Leak Roofing in Oklahoma City.

Preceding him in death was his grandfather, Thomas Green.

Survivors include: wife, Martina of the home; daughter, Dametra Gouge of Oklahoma City; stepdaughter, Bridgette Wilson of Shawnee; two sons, Edward Green Jr. and Ivan Green, both of Shawnee; mother, of Tulsa; three sisters, Penny Buckley, Cheryl Meely and Crystal Buckley, all of Tulsa; grandmother, Lillian Deer of Wetumka; and many other relatives.

Interment was at Resthaven Memorial Park.

ELMER JONES

OKMULGEE —– Funeral services for Elmer Jones were held February 24 at the Belvin Baptist Church with Rev. Jim Alexander officiating.

He was born to Parlie Bear Douglas and Austin Jones on March 18, 1919, in Okfuskee County. Jones was a lifelong member of Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church.

Elmer served in the U.S. Army from 1941 to 1945, during which time he was assigned to duty in France, Rhineland, Central Europe, participated in the Normandy Invasion, and was the recipient of the American Defense Medal, EAME Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal and four Bronze Stars for meritorious achievement. He was a proud member of Okmulgee's Veterans of Foreign War - Post #1819 and retired in 1980 from a successful career with the City of Okmulgee.

Elmer and Mahaley Tarpalechee were united in marriage on March 16, 1946.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; brother, Walter Jones; son, Terry Jones, Sr.; and granddaughter, Roberta Jones.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; four sons, Robert and Floyd of Okmulgee, Billy of Tulsa, Glenn of Dewar, sister, Stella Roberts; brother, Harry Douglas; seventeen grandchildren; eighteen great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; and a host of nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Pallbearers were Shane, Austin, Terry Jr., Scott, and Ryan Jones.

Honorary pallbearers include: Senor Jones; Matthew Roberts; Yarme Tarpalechee; Bobby Jennings; A.D. Ellis; and Houston Hicks.

Interment was at the Jones Family Cemetery.

Religion

Belvin Baptist church

OKMULGEE — "The word goes on" at Belvin Baptist Church on April 21 through 25. The service will begin at 7:00 each evening.

One of the speakers will be Brother Ledtkey McIntosh of 1st Baptist Church in Paden. Special music nightly. Nursery provided each night.

For transportation call 756-6698. The church is located at 320 N. Mission.

Springfield UMC to hold annual gospel singing

OKEMAH — Springfield Methodist Church is holding its 20th annual memorial gospel singing on May 25 beginning at 7 p.m. Springfield Methodist Church members will serve as the masters of ceremonies.

Those attending are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. Concessions will be available.

From Okemah drive two miles south on state highway 27, four miles east, and two miles south.

Oklahoma Indian missionary conference

ANADARKO — Election of clergy and lay delegates to the 2004 General and jurisdictional conferences will be a major agenda item for the United Methodist annual conference sessions this year.

The sixty-four U.S. conferences, meeting during May and June, will elect 497 clergy delegates and 497 lay delegates to the denomination's highest legislative body, General Conference.

The annual conferences also will elect delegates to the five U.S. jurisdictional conferences, which will be held in July 2004 to elect bishops and assign them and others to geographic areas for the next four years.

Annual conference members, including lay and clergy representatives from every local church, will also approve budgets, receive reports from conference boards and agencies, adopt programs of mission and ministry, and pass resolutions. Several annual conferences will participate in liturgical acts of repentance and reconciliation services, which are confessions to the sin of racism in the denomination. The services also are an attempt to recapture the spirit of Methodism lost when some African Americans in the 18th and 19th centuries felt compelled by racism in the church to leave and form their own denominations.

A bishop will preside over each conference session. One-year appointments of all clergy members of the conference will also be announced, new deacons and elders will be ordained, and candidates for ordination will be approved.

The date for the South Central Jurisdiction, Oklahoma Indian Missionary annual conference will be held June 5th through 8th.

Filings

continued from page 2

- Georgianna Hicks vs. Keith Hicks, Jessica Miller, Roy Hicks
- Falon Rogers vs. Johnny Haddox Jr.
- Roxanne Jones vs. Marcus Lawrence
- Constance Dan vs. Marc Robinson
- Geneva Bear vs. Ashley J. Bear
- Jamie Osburn vs. Patrick J. Osburn
- Roxanne Jones vs. Marcus Lawrence
- Jamie Osburn vs. Patrick Osburn

Divorce:

- Mattie L. Margason vs. James N. Margason
- Sonya Hooper vs. Walter Hooper

Criminal-misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Markeisha Green
  — count 1: Larceny

Traffic:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Todd A. Diaz
  — count 1: Disorderly Conduct
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Marshall Gaston
  — No Insurance

March District Court filings

Civil Actions:

- Bertie Lou Stringfellow vs. June Fixico
- Name Change: Mandy Zafar
- Tulsa Adjustment Bureau vs. Jerry Williams
- Tulsa Adjustment Bureau vs. Jamie Ary

Protective Orders:

- Justina McNac vs. Anton Kemp
- Wanda Hill vs. Pete Jack
- Anita Shirley vs. Timothy Shirley
- Roxanne Jones vs. Marcus Lawrence
- Winey Fowler vs. Randy Fowler
- Minnifee Delgado vs. Manuel Perez
- Nellie Powell vs. Lydia Fowler
- Roxanne Jones vs. Marcus Lawrence
- Randi Gibson vs. Rickey Gibson
- Minnifee Delgado vs. Manuel Perez
- Roxanne Jones vs. Marcus Lawrence
- Randi Gibson vs. Rickey Gibson

Divorce:

- Millie Roughface vs. David Roughface
- Kelly Michno vs. Roy Petih

Criminal-misdemeanor:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jackie Branam
  count 1: Public Intoxication
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Nicholas Carrier
  count 1: Larceny
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Brandon McIntosh
  count 1: Disorderly Conduct
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Howard Wise
  count 1: Disorderly Conduct
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Robert Petsemoie
  count 1: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Rebecca Lindsey
  counts 1-18: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jesse Scott
  count 1: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Ronald Dyer
  count 1: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Agnes Randall
  count 1: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Victor Berryhill
  count 1: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Freda Miller
  counts 1-6: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Joyce Harrison
  count 1: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Dean Barth
  count 1: Public Intoxication

Criminal-felony:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Patrick Hicks
  count 1: Larceny
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jerry Joe Mason
  count 1: Larceny
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Pete Lloyd Jack
  count 1: Aggravated Battery
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Stuart Williams
  count 1: Domestic Violence
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Ronald Teel
  count 1: Fraud
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Robert Petsemoie
  counts 1-3: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Adam Robinson
  count 1: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Roy Roberts
  counts 1-2: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Freda Miller
  counts 1-6: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Joyce Harrison
  counts 1-4: Cheating by Check

Traffic:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jerry Joe Mason
  count 1: Larceny
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jackie Branam
  count 1: Suspended Drivers License
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jackie Branam
  count 1: No Insurance
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Jackie Branam
  count 1: Starting Turning and Stopping without regard to safety

Notices

continued from page 4

Volunteers needed for junior olympics

OKMULGE — Volunteers are needed for the 29th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival junior olympics.

This year we have added the long jump to the junior olympics. Also, this year the olympics will be held at Harmon stadium.

We need the employees of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to volunteer their time to help us run this festive event.

For more information contact Leeanna Tomah or Dawn Edwards at (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 698.

Grand opening for Oasis Specialty

TULSA — Oasis Specialty, a gift store and more, will soon open its doors with a grand opening May 3. The business is a joint venture between David Battiest and Jeff Strait.

The store will offer a wide variety of products from conventional, religious and Native American to many others for the home and office.

Oasis Specialty does offer fundraising opportunities, offering many of the same products available in the store.

Oasis Specialty is located at 3609 E. 11th St on historic route 66. For more information call (918) 834-5000.

Native American caregiver support program

HOLDENVILLE — There will also be a "Grandparent Wisdom Circle". The guest speaker will be Dr. Elise Berryhill-Taylor on April 30 at 10 a.m.

This event will be held at the Okmulgee nutrition center located at the main capital complex on Hwy 75 and Loop 56.

For more information contact Loretta Jumper at 1-800-782-8291.

Government

continued from page 3

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 03-023, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the employment and training program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the supplemental youth program;

• approved (23-0-0) NCA 03-024, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the workforce vocational training program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (22-1-0) NCA 03-043, amending NCA 99-20 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation adopting revised election code and repealing NCA 81-82 and all amendments to NCA 81-82) as amended by NCA 01-115 to be codified in title 19 of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, entitled "elections" related to candidate registration forms, candidate registration, candidate filing period, petitions and filing fees, candidate withdrawals from the primary election;

voting no was **Jackson**, Okfuskee;

representative **David Nichols** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (15-7-0) NCA 03-044, repealing NCA 01-136 and re-establishing the special academic/extra curricular program under the human development committee of the national council;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Sandra Golden** was excused;

• tabled (18-4-0) NCA 03-047, authorizing a special appropriation to the Weleetka Public Schools to assit with fundraising to pay for state rings for the Native American football players who contributed to the winning of the state championship;

voting no were: **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; and **Wind**, Muskogee;

• approved as amended (21-0-1) NCA 03-048, authorizing a special appropriation to the Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard for the purchase of a van;

abstain was **Almerigi**, Okmulgee;

• approved (19-1-2) NCA 03-049, authorizing a special appropriation to assist fourteen (14) creek high school athletes in purchasing their Oklahoma State Football Championship rings;

voting no was **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

abstain were: **Johnson**, Okmulgee and **Nichols**, Okmulgee;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 03-050, authorizing a special appropriation for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation office of the attorney general to purchase a new server for the existing computer system;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 03-051, authorizing a special appropriation for a spring break youth event;

• approved as amended (21-0-1) NCA 03-054, authorizing a special appropriation to Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women (OFIW)

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending December 31, 2002
Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending December 31, 2002 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditure, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending December 31, 2002. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending December 31, 2002.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of December 31, 2002.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

PROGRAM	BUDGETS	ENCUMBERED	EXPENDED	BALANCE
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	261,208.00	0.00	0.00	261,208.00
TREASURY	4,694.00	0.00	1,094.00	3,600.00
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	57,709.00	0.00	0.00	57,709.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	1,714,266.00	108,306.00	439,842.00	1,166,118.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	1,566,304.00	19,973.00	68,586.00	1,477,745.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	3,082,345.00	43,328.00	713,120.00	2,325,897.00
CONSUMER LOANS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CREEK NATION BINGO	8,225,450.00	31,759.00	1,040,804.00	7,152,887.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	373,564.00	0.00	11,243.00	362,321.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	0.00	0.00	18,122.00	(18,122.00)
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	2,182.00	0.00	0.00	2,182.00
CODIFICATION	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
4-H CLUB	0.00	777.00	4,382.00	(5,159.00)
READING IS FUNDAMENTAL	1,895.00	0.00	1,890.00	5.00
TRIBAL BUDGET	269,613.00	0.00	33,263.00	236,350.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	752,219.00	83,623.00	123,008.00	545,588.00
WIA-TITLE I	1,014.00	0.00	0.00	1,014.00
WIA-TITLE I '01	5,199.00	0.00	5,029.00	170.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '01	12,481.00	0.00	6,537.00	5,944.00
WIA-TITLE I '02	548,841.00	1,481.00	204,057.00	343,303.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '02	88,195.00	1,640.00	36,835.00	49,720.00
WELFARE TO WORK	6,410.00	0.00	2,526.00	3,884.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	1,656.00	0.00	0.00	1,656.00
HUD-NAHASDA '00	6,372,586.00	4,953.00	169,967.00	6,197,666.00
HUD-SPAULPA CLINIC	750,000.00	690,000.00	60,000.00	0.00
HUD-ROSS '01	96,231.00	0.00	30,998.00	65,233.00
HUD-NAHASDA '01	13,168,232.00	12,781.00	907,255.00	12,248,196.00
HUD-DRUG ELIMINATION	83,967.00	0.00	40,416.00	43,551.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	1,214,308.00	441,413.00	772,895.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	3,465,113.00	0.00	526,206.00	2,938,907.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '01	0.00	0.00	(345.00)	345.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '01	339,733.00	4,236.00	18,135.00	317,362.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '01	28,342.00	0.00	29,004.00	(662.00)
LIHEAP '02	5,911.00	0.00	421.00	5,490.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '02	179,518.00	17,862.00	54,364.00	107,292.00
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '02	682,444.00	17,856.00	206,557.00	458,031.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '02	841,771.00	22,213.00	323,524.00	496,034.00
HEAD START '02	535,275.00	52,910.00	419,860.00	62,505.00
TITLE IV-B '02	154,240.00	2,250.00	30,815.00	121,175.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '02	243,214.00	24,034.00	19,023.00	200,157.00
LIHEAP '03	98,923.00	310.00	16,303.00	82,310.00
CCDBG - MANATORY '03	2,545,476.00	20,400.00	0.00	2,525,076.00
HEADSTART '03	0.00	0.00	69,668.00	(69,668.00)
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '02	5,120.00	0.00	5,120.00	0.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '03	0.00	2,083.00	61,232.00	(63,315.00)
FEMA	4,280.00	0.00	4,280.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	0.00	0.00	1,416.00	(1,416.00)
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	516,446.00	253.00	81,777.00	434,416.00
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	75,334.00	13,668.00	19,745.00	41,921.00
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	0.00	2,000.00	3,947.00	(5,947.00)
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	3,925.00	0.00	1,303.00	2,622.00
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	4,629,146.00	42,367.00	914,120.00	3,672,659.00
DOI-ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP	8,478.00	0.00	277.00	8,201.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	261,264.00	13,324.00	24,655.00	223,285.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.'00	22,932.00	0.00	14,707.00	8,225.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '01	14,810.00	0.00	9,194.00	5,616.00
EUFAULA DORM '01	568,457.00	10,839.00	152,545.00	405,073.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV '01	78,052.00	0.00	4,687.00	73,365.00
LAMAR ROAD	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
LITTLE CUSSETH CHURCH RD	157,389.00	0.00	0.00	157,389.00
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	398,506.00	20,066.00	325,642.00	52,798.00
THEWARLE CHURCH ROAD	188,689.00	141,117.00	0.00	47,572.00
PORTER ROAD	135,752.00	0.00	437.00	135,315.00
OLD BIXBY ROAD	803,712.00	698,942.00	28,348.00	76,422.00
SALEM ROAD	156,323.00	2,451.00	55,903.00	97,969.00
SKELLY/HASKELL	702,573.00	0.00	5,759.00	696,814.00
METHODIST CHURCH ROAD	192,334.00	0.00	184,995.00	7,339.00
HECTORVILLE ROAD	1,284,685.00	0.00	525.00	1,284,160.00
SUMMIT SOUTH ROAD	198,094.00	192,277.00	267.00	5,550.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '02	5,756.00	41.00	3,134.00	2,581.00
JOM '02	478,702.00	5,241.00	243,541.00	229,920.00
EUFAULA DORM '02	882,595.00	81,780.00	72,876.00	727,939.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	3,245,064.00	48,000.00	43,354.00	3,153,710.00
EUFAULA DORM '99	34,734.00	0.00	0.00	34,734.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	44,234.00	0.00	0.00	44,234.00
DRUG COURT	98,022.00	0.00	8,523.00	89,499.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	132,637.00	0.00	17,738.00	114,899.00
EPA	40,199.00	0.00	5,009.00	35,190.00
SAPULPA CLINIC-ICDBG	766,271.00	766,271.00	0.00	0.00
MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	749,115.00	302,754.00	118,886.00	327,475.00
MUSKOGEE OFFICE BLDG	972,881.00	192,632.00	907,974.00	(127,725.00)
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	4,000.00	200.00	0.00	3,800.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	0.00	56,021.00	16,349.00	(72,370.00)
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	0.00	0.00	2,901.00	(2,901.00)
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	0.00	0.00	2,414.00	(2,414.00)
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	810,106.00	11,105.00	84,840.00	714,161.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	1,519,133.00	218,630.00	426,439.00	874,064.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	76,356.00	2,986.00	779.00	72,591.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	73,000.00	0.00	5,700.00	67,300.00
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	0.00	0.00	534,782.00	(534,782.00)
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	0.00	0.00	500.00	(500.00)
TOTALS	**68,227,035.00**	**4,427,153.00**	**10,802,024.00**	**52,997,858.00**

The Muscogee Nation News

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Tribe Grabs Million Dollar Venture

by Gerald Wofford

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation announces the purchase of Complete Technology Concepts (CTC), a company that specializes in Information Technology Systems (ITS).

The Tribe, through its Section 8(a) company, Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise (MNBE), will oversee the day-to-day operations.

"This acquisition will allow us to pursue federal contracting opportunities which will take this company to locations and installations in Oklahoma and throughout North America as well as internationally," said Michael Nalley, General Manager of Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise. "This acquisition will now allow the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to diversify its economic base to include contracts with the U.S. Government and numerous departments and agencies."

Complete Technology Concepts is a communications infrastructure provicder with substantial Federal Government contracting experience and current long-term federal contracts and purchasing agreements. CTC is also a single solutions source for telephone systems, data network integration, wireless network systems, and structured cabling solutions.

Nalley stated that with the signing of the acquisition the Tribe will be "just one of few tribally owned ITS companies in the country."

Sam Morse, Co-founder of CTC, expects a successful relationship to begin with the tribe. "What we are about from a economic development stand point are careers and career fields," said Morse. "CTC has a long history of taking employees at the start up level and moving them, based on their skill sense, up into the higher echelon, higher dollar, if you will, career fields."

Nalley stated that 10 local employees would be intially hired and within 2 1/2 years, another 40 individuals could be employed.

Through effective training, career opportunities will be available in voice and data structured cabling, wireless, telephone and network systems. MNBE will also be working closely with state educational institutions. "The candidates will also be trained on the Creek Nation Complex and throughout our project site locations," said Nalley.

Morse stresses that employees hired will be highly skilled, higher pay scale engineering type of positions. " These are the folks that come out to your business and trouble shoot a problem with the phone system or install a new telecommunications system in the business," he said.

Left to Right:Muscogee Business Enterprise General Manager Michael Nalley, Complete Technology Concepts Co-Founder Sam Morse, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver, and Second Chief A.D. Ellis held a press conference on April 21 to announce the purchase of Complete Technology Systems.

It is the desire of the Muscoge Nation Business Enterprise, according to Nalley, to maximize CTC's federal ITS contracting position to reach a goal of annual gross sales in ITS of 25 million dollars in 3 years.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief A.D. Ellis said "this is a marvellous ous opportunity for us to expand economically," while Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver mentioned the area benefits of this business affiliation. "How we, as the Creek Nation can improve the economy of Okmulgee and Oklahoma is limitless."

Nalley envisions unique training for employees and advancement through training and that filling any of these future positions will be Indian preference.

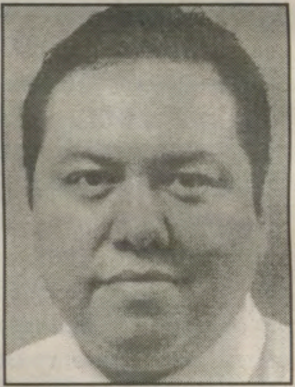
Educational Institutions like OSU/Okmulgee will be utilized for possible employees, as well other educational facilities in Oklahoma.

"We will evaluate our citizens first," he said. "But we will utilize people of all races for these jobs. We want this to be an opportunity where not only do our Indian citizens benefit, but all Oklahomans will benefit.

"I also want to add that without the support of Princpal Cheif Beaver, Second Chief A.D. Ellis, Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker Wilbur Gouge and the current 26 National Council members, this unique business venture would not have been possible."

Employee honored

MUSKOGEE — Indian Gaming magazine, a publication that focuses on the American Indian gaming industry announced Muscogee (Creek) citizen Ernie Tiger as their 'Extraordinary Employee of the Month' for March.



Tiger

Tiger is the Assistant Manager of Creek Nation Muscogee Bingo in Muskogee. Tiger was nominated by co-worker Fawn Knepp who describes Tiger as always willing to help out anyone, employee or customer. "He knows every employee by name which is over 130 people," said Knepp.

Farrell Kaaihue, General Manager of Muscogee Bingo says the award is well deserved. "Ernie's work experience has been a vital part of the growth of this establishment."

Tiger feels the management is very fair and honest and tries to give those qualities back to other employees.

Knepp added, "He (Tiger) makes you want to come to work."

Tribal citizen expresses appreciation

Editor:

A surprise birthday party was held February 22 at the Carriage Crossing in Coweta for Mrs. Elizabeth Wacoche Porter.

Special thanks for the use of this beautiful facility. The master of ceremonies for this occasion and special thanks to Ames & Louise Harjo from Muskogee.

Appreciation is also given to Willie Randall and Alfred Berryhill for the Creek hymns and exhortations. I would also like to thank those attending the party. *Mvto.*

Elizabeth Wacoche Porter, Coweta

Citizen asks about rights

Editor:

The intent of this letter is to expand on information that I have obtained recently and to request each and every citizen to ask questions about their individual rights within the Muscogee Nation boundaries.

I recently was invited to speak to the Constitutional Committee on Indian Civil Rights. There was no quorum present, but I was allowed to speak to those present about the protections that are necessary in enacting a Muscogee Bill of Rights. It is my understanding that a statutory law is in place that allows appointment of counsel, in criminal matters, for indigent citizens. This is great, however, I realize that this is a statutory enactment and can be repealed by the National Council at any time. We have no Constitutional provision that would prevent such action.

Civil rights in any arena are a necessary right. Our children should be born with this right however, this is not the case. For instance, we as citizens of the State of Oklahoma have rights guaranteed to us by the United States Constitution against governmental intrusion. Furthermore, the United States Constitution also guarantees each and every citizen of this United States rights against governmental intrusion and we as individual citizens of the State of Oklahoma and of the United States can seek redress in their courts. However, as citizens of the Muscogee Nation we have no Constitutional provision that guarantees each and every Muscogee citizen protections from governmental intrusion or governmental injuries.

Again, I would like to instill upon each and every citizen of the Muscogee Nation that neither rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights nor the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution are applicable to the citizens of the Muscogee Nation or to our courts.

In closing, I would like to appeal to every citizen of the Muscogee Nation to contact his or her respective council representative and ask the question, "What rights do I have as a citizen of the Muscogee Nation." Also, ask your representative for a copy of the proposed Muscogee Bill of Rights (which is totally different from the suggestions I had submitted) and after reviewing the document give their thoughts on the proposed Muscogee Nation Bill of Rights.

Richard Wilde, Tulsa

Editor's note: The suggestions Mr. Wilde made reference to were printed in the October 2002 edition of the Muscogee Nation News.

April District Court filings

Civil Actions:
- Okemah Indian Community vs. R. Perry Beaver

Protective Orders:
- Allison Hill vs. Edwin Deere
- Regina Buckley vs. Ryan Buckley
- Cynthia Tiger-Lefthand vs. Hank Lefthand
- Ricky Harjo vs. Melissa Smith

Divorce:
- Cinda Reeves vs. Johnny Reeves
- Christal LaDon Auten vs. Daniel Allen Auten
- DeeAnn Bear vs. Erwin Bear
- Nancy Chiles vs. Alfonzo Chiles Jr.
- Angela Johnson vs. James Johnson
- Lisa Hefner vs. George Skinner

Criminal-misdemeanor:
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Pasty Harley
—count 1: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. June Fixico
—cts 1-2: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Antonia Garcia
—count 1: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Laverna Wind
—cts 1-10: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Nicholas Sanders
—count 1: Possession of Paraphernalia

Criminal-misdemeanor:
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Laverna Wind
—cts 1-26: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Zonie Parkhurst
—cts 1-2: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Wynema Roberts
—cts 1-25: Cheating by Check
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Myra Akers
—count 1: Aggravated Battery
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Tony Kelough
—count 1: Aggravated Battery
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Tony Kelough
—count 1: Battery
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Tony Kelough
—count 1: Malicious Mischief

Traffic:
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Eddie Hill
—count 1: Driving Under Suspension
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Russell Jones
—count 1: Driving in Violation of Court Order
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Glendon Mosley
—count 1: Disorderly Conduct

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

It is 'Garden Planting Time'. Last week I planted two acres of Black Diamond Watermelons but I believe it is still to early. I was raised on a farm and still enjoy the planting and harvesting time of year.

I'll get back to the important things in our nation – – On Monday, April 21st, I signed the contract to complete the purchase agreement of Complete Technology Concepts. This is a high-tech company that the Creek Nation now own's in Texas. We now have employees working in Washington D.C. at the Treasury Department and also at Lockeed Martin Aircraft Plant in Ft. Worth. The Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority now has seventy-five employees and the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise has thirty-three employees. We predict an additional one-hundred new employees in the government contract division within the next year. I see our nation again becoming a leader among Indian Nations in the near future.

At a recent Employee Protection Commission meeting the board was told by the Creek Nation Housing attorney, that tribal law passed by the National Council had no jurisdiction over them, because they are governed by state law only. I authored this law when I was on the National Council in 1995 to protect all employees and I totally disagree with the Housing Authority. If they insist, then all housing complaints should be sent to the Oklahoma Attorney General or Governor Henry's office in Oklahoma City. I have a letter on my desk now from the governor's office saying "we should take care of our own problems".

Congratulations, to the Sapulpa Indian Community on their new Nutrition Center.

A few years ago, the local city and county government didn't acknowledge Creek Nation as being important. Now we are very involved in all areas of future development in most government's, even the state. Everyone is realizing that our nation is a force to be recognized in the future of this area.

In the recent election concerning the constitutional amendment, 1200 votes were cast and out of 1200 votes, 955 were absentee votes.

Our filing period for the general election is July 21st through July 23rd. The primary election for Chief, Second Chief and all National Council is September 20. The run-off election will be November 8.

Best wishes to all and if I can provide any information, please call. *Mvto.*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

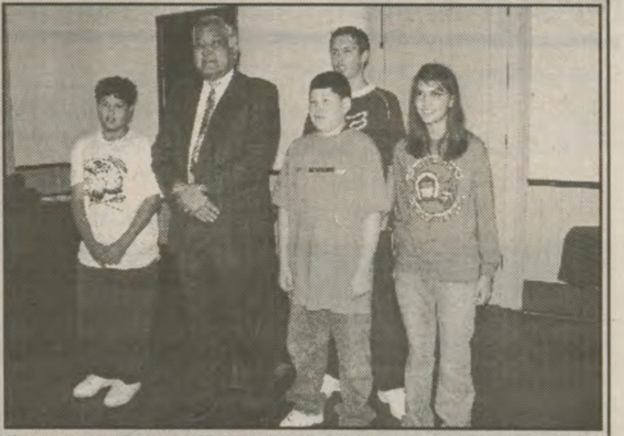
JOM Student Art Competition

OKMULGEE — The Johnson O'Malley Student Art Competition award presentation and reception was held on March 20 at the Creek Council House Museum with Chief R. Perry Beaver making the presentations.

Winners were: first place: Anthony Beaver, seventh grade, Okmulgee middle school; second, Steven Tabbytite, seventh grade, Okmulgee middle school; third, Hadley Vardell, eighth grade, Morris and fourth, Ashley Pahsetopah, seventh grade, Lonestar. Each received a certificate, ribbon and a monetary award. Others who participated were Dayla Dooley, Shane Rock and William Roberts all of Morris schools; and Bryan Pahsetopah of Sapulpa high school.

The awards were presented to participants who entered the local competition in December, 2002. The local competition was opened to any JOM student in grades 7–12 within Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries. Four winners are selected on the local level and then advance to the state level where it is opened to all JOM students statewide.

The winners of the statewide contest are selected at the Oklahoma State JOM Conference, which this year was held in Tulsa on March 3. The winning artwork becomes the logo for the year and appears on program covers, t-shirt, and other items. A large reception is held at the state convention in which the state winners are given awards. This years top award went to Dustin Eaves, Pawnee high school.



Front row: Steven Tabbytite, Principal Chief, R. Perry Beaver; William Roberts; and Ashley Pahsetopah, back row: Brian Pahsetopah
Not pictured: Anthony Beaver and Hadley Vardell

Social Services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., June 4 and 18;
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., June 5 and 19;
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., June 5 and 19;
- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., June 3 and 17; and
- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., June 3.

Native speakers sought for project

SHAWNEE — A new organization, Muscogee-Seminole translation ministries, has been formed for the purpose of developing materials in cooperation with Wycliffe Bible Translators.

The group is looking for individuals who speak and read the language and are interested in working with them. One of the first goals of the organization is to dub the popular "Jesus" video. Preliminary work has been started, meeting with a representative of Wycliffe, and developing a working core group. Future meetings will depend on the response to this invitation. The organizing group wants to provide an open opportunity for others to be involved.

If you are interested in working with this project, send you name, address, and telephone number to: Bill Barnett, 4010 Pine Ridge Road, Shawnee, OK 74804.

California Creek Association meeting

DOWNEY, CAL. — The California Muscogee (Creek) association (CMCA) will meet on May 31 from 11:30 a.m to 3:30 p.m at Furman Park located between Florence and Firestone Ave.

Second Chief, A.D. Ellis, who will be on personal leave, will be vacationing in California and plans on attending this meeting.

CMCA would like to invite any and all Muscogee Creeks who are living in or traveling thru.

Oklahoma Presbyterian college to hold reunion

DURANT — Alumni of Oklahoma Presbyterian college who also attended Southeastern Oklahoma State University will have reunion activities beginning October 3 through 5. Registration will begin at 2 p.m at the Choctaw Inn. A brunch and banquet will be held at the Choctaw Inn on Oct. 4.

Many Native Americans and nationalities from other countries attended Oklahoma Presbyterian College as well as SOSU. This reunion is devoted to both OPC alumni and those who lived on campus who attended SOSU.

For more information contact Janis Imotichey at (580)443-5468.

Viet Nam Veterans' Memorial "Moving Wall"

OKMULGEE — The Viet Nam Memorial "Moving Wall" will be available on June 12 through 18 at the Creek Nation complex located at Hwy. 75 & Loop 56.

Opening ceremonies will be June 12 at 10 a.m. Flag day ceremonies will be June 14 at 10 a.m.

The ceremony is to honor all veterans of all wars.

Sponsored by Veterans of Foreign wars post 1189 1427 N. Okmulgee, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

For more information contact Richard Dyer at (918) 756-7559 or Robert Jones at (918) 756-0961.

Museum curator's book sheds light on the Yuchis

NORMAN — Jason Jackson, assitant curator of ethonology at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Musuem of Natural History and assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Oklahoma has spent more than a decade working with the Yuchi. Officially recognized only as part of the Creek tribe, despite having their own language and seperate customs, the Yuchis continue to maintain their cultural identity through ritual and tradition. The significance of the Yuchi community ceremonies is the subject of Jackson's exhaustive first book, Yuchi Ceremonial Life: Performance, Meaning and Tradition in a Contemporary American Indian Community, recently published by the University of Nebraska Press.

Yuchi Ceremonial Life is available at Excavations, the museum store, or can be purchased online at www.snomnh.ou.edu/publications/Books/index.shtml. For more information, call (405) 325-4712, or visit the museum's web site at www.snomnh.ou.edu.

Election board post official results

OKMULGEE — NCA 02-153, was passed during the special election on April 19 with the vote totals of 989 "yes" votes and 307 "no" votes.

For more information on the special election contact the Election board at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 294.

Oils at Creek Nation for Bankruptcy clinic

OKMULGEE — Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, Inc. (OILS) will be at Creek Nation tribal complex on May 14 from 10 a.m to 3 p.m. OILS will be presenting a bankruptcy and consumer credit clinic. Attorneys Josie Cashner and Mark Widell will be presenters and will also be available for questions and answers. Participants with specific in depth questions are requested to bring their documents; including credit reports, pleading and bills.

The Muscogee Creek Nation is located at HWY 75 and Loop 56 in the main complex building, BIA Conference Room.

OILS will also present a Wills clinic at the same location on June 25 from 10 a.m to 3 p.m and a family law clinic on July 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

OILS is a nonprofit legal aid organization providing legal services to low-income Native Americans residing in Oklahoma with their legal issue also originating in Oklahoma. OILS represents Indian people in civil proceeding that result directly from the person's Indian status. OILS also works to inform the Indian population in Oklahoma by providing community education to Native American tribes and groups.

They are funded by the Legal Services Corporation in Washington, D.C. The Legal services corporation is a nonprofit organization established by Congress to provide legal assistance to indigent people.

OILS concentrates on cases that are likely to have a significant positive impact on the Indian population as a whole. OILS concentrates its efforts in five general areas: Indian child welfare; housing; natural resources; tribal sovereignty; and individual rights. You must be low income to be eligible for services. Criminal cases are not handled by OILS.

Applications for services are taken over the telephone Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Advice only is given every Tuesday.

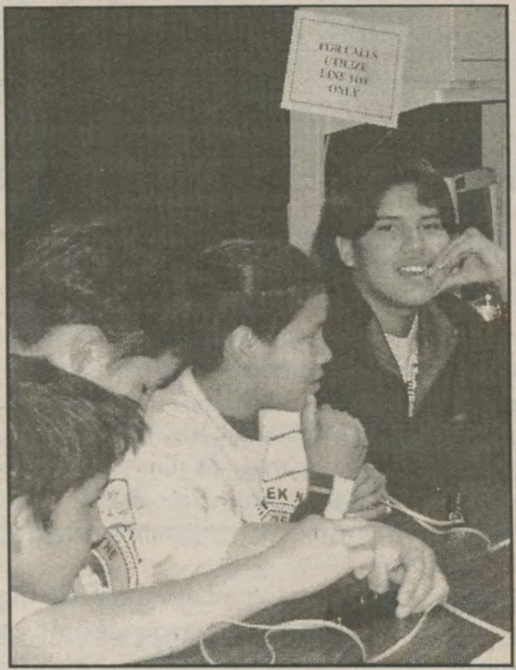
For further information contact OILS at 1-800-658-1497 or Malissa Napier at Creek Nation at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 204.

2003 Challenge Bowl winners

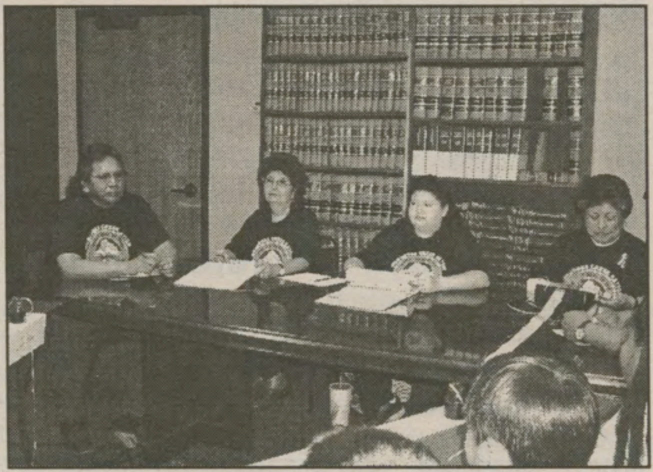
Elementary Division
First place: Hanna elementary school
Second place: Wilson Katcv-Estvcvte
Third place: Sapulpa Ayo Hvtke
Sportsmanship award: Tulsa Remington Angels
Middle School Division
First place: Wilson Tafv Lusty
Second place: Sapulpa Lv'mhe Hvt'ke
Third place: Alabama Quasartte Tribal Town Falcons
Sportsmanship award: Moss middle school
High School Division
First place: Eufaula Ekv Cvto
Second place: Okmulgee Efv-Rakko
Third place: Mason Naorkvl-ke
Sportsmanship award: Weleetka Five Little Ladies and Native American Club

JOM Challenge Bowl 2003

April 2, 9, & 16



Stormy George, Jeremy Harper, Stormy Harjo and Aaron Harjo of Holdenville Hvmken prepare to respond to the question



Helper's Dean Tiger, Gloria Haynes, Lanissa Jack and Pearl Thomas were instrumental in the success of this year's Challenge Bowl

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Princess Jade McIntosh places a first place medal on John Beaver from the Eufaula high school team

Week of the Young Child

April 7–11

Photos by: Gerald Wofford
&
Denise Jacobs

Children from the Creek Nation Head Start proudly display their banners during the Okmulgee parade

The Parent–Child picnic get together

Anyone for "Parachute Popcorn"?

Creek Nation Festival 2003 schedule of events, entry fee and application deadlines

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Festival will be held June 20 through 22 at the Claude Cox Omniplex.

All entry fees should be paid by cashier's check or money order unless otherwise stated.

Junior olympics

The junior olympics will begin at 7:30 a.m., June 20 at the Harmon stadium.

The deadline for registration is May 23.

Volunteeers are needed for this event. For more information contact LeeAnna Tomah or Dawn Edwards at 1-800-521-5432.

Pageantry

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care is coordinating two Muscogee Nation pageants. Senior Misses and Little Miss Mvskoke pageant events will be held at 7 p.m., June 17 in the Independent Agencies (mound) Building Auditorium. Miss Mvskoke and junior miss Mvskoke pageant events will be held at 7 p.m., June 19 in the mound also.

The age groups for all categories are miss Mvskoke, ages 16 to 21; junior miss, ages 13 to 15; senior misses, ages 55 years and older, little miss division I, ages four to six; division II, ages seven to nine; division III, ages 10 to twelve.

Participants must be at least one-fourth Muscogee (Creek).

Prizes include: miss Mvskoke — $2,500, crown, and trophy; runner-up receives $500 and a plaque; junior miss — $500, crown, and trophy; runner-up will receive $125 and plaque; senior misses — $500, trophy, and crown; runner-up will receive $125 and plaque; little miss — all three divisions receive $100, trophy, and crown; each division runner-up will receive $25 and plaque.

The deadline date for applications is May 30. For more information, contact the pageant committee at (918) 758-1463 or 1-800-205-3705.

Festival food and arts and crafts vendors

Omniplex booth space rental fees for vendors are: $125 for food and arts and crafts are $40 without electric and $60 with electric.

Space location is secured through payment of rental fees and will be granted on a first-come-first-serve basis. Make entry fee payable to "Creek Nation Festival committee."

For more information contact: Melissa Ambler for the food booths at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 238 and Melinda Taylor for the arts and crafts at ext. 609.

Three-on-Three basketball

A three-on-three basketball tournament will be held June 21 at the omniplex.

Entry fee is $50. You must be an enrolled tribal member to enter. The deadline for entry fee is June 6. No late entries will be accepted.

T-shirts and trophies will be awarded to winners in all categories.

For more information contact Julie Hightower at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 371.

Co-Ed Softball tournament

An All-Indian co-ed softball tournament will be held on June 20 through 22, co-sponsored by Worth.

This event will be held at Creek Nation Omniplex and/or Okmulgee City parks.

Limited to 16 teams with 12 player roster. Entry fee will be $150 by June 9 at 5 p.m. A late fee of $175 will be accepted until June 16. Make entry fee payable to: Creek Nation Festival Committee c/o Lucas Taylor.

Awards include: first place, hooded sweatshirts or jackets, team trophy and one gold EST; second place, sweatshirts, team trophy, and one black EST; third place, long-sleeve t-shirts, team trophy, and one blue EST; fourth place, t-shirts, team trophy and one green EST. All coaches will receive a free team Worth t-shirt. Ten all-tournament long-sleeve t-shirts; one male MVP sweatshirt, bat bag & 12-inch resin trophy; one female MVP sweatshirt, bat bag, & 12-inch resin trophy; one male and female worth gold glove award; and one gold EST yard dog award.

For more information contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 756-3334 ext. 279 or at home (918) 650-0388.

All-Indian Co-ed volleyball tournament

An all-Indian co-ed volleyball tournament will be held on June 21 at 9 a.m until finish at the Omniplex.

16 teams allowed with four men and four women per team. Deadline is June 16. Entry fee is $65. Make payable to: Creek Nation Festival Committee c/o Roy Yargee.

Awards include: first, trophy, hooded sweatshirt; second, trophy and t-shirts; and third, trophy.

For more information contact Roy Yargee at (918) 758-1420 ext. 26.

Golf tournament

Golf tournament will be held on June 20 through 22 at Cotton Creek golf course, South of Glenpool.

June 20 scramble entry fee : $50 (includes cart and green fees) registration at noon and tournament start time will be 1 p.m.

June 20 & 21 entry fee: $70 (includes cart, green fees and Saturday lunch)

June 21: players are responsible for scheduling tee times

June 22: 8 a.m. shotgun start

Flights: men's championship, A,B & C; women's A & B; seniors, A & B.

Players must have tribal enrollment or CDIB card to play. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top finishers in each flight; longest drivers and closest to the pin contest will be awarded for men, women & seniors. Private carts are allowed. Cash only.

Cotton Creek is located two blocks west of Hwy 75 on 181st Street.

To register call: William Freeman at (918) 756-8700 ext. 221 or 222 or Cotton Creek at (918) 827-3673.

Gospel Concert

Gospel concert on June 20 at 7:30 p.m., at the mound auditorium.

Featuring "Geebon and Jenna Gouge & The Crosstown Choir" plus individual specials and guest singers.

Special guest will be Taylor Osborn of Wetumka.

Come enjoy an evening of gospel praise and worship with holy spirit filled singers and musicians.

For more information contact Geebon Gouge at (918) 756-8700 ext. 235.

Toughman Tournament

16 man single elimination toughman tournament on June 20 at 7:30 p.m., at the omniplex.

$500 prize in each category. Lightweight 0-185# and heavyweight 185# & over. Eight entries in each category, winner takes all.

Amateurs only, no professionals.

Equipment provided – $25 OBC Lincense Fee required unless previously licensed.

For entry information contact: Edwin Marshall at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 375.

Horseshoe tournament

The horseshoe tournament will be on June 21 at 10 a.m at the omniplex. Registration will begin 9 a.m.

Entry fee will be $10 per person. Cash prizes in both single and double catagories. Cash only!

For more information contact Steve Landsberry at (918) 758-1926 or 637-0387 or Richard Beaver at (918) 756-1914.

5K run/walk

The 5KM run/walk will be on June 21 at the Muscogee Nation complex.

Entry fee through June 20 is $15 or $20 on race day (includes t-shirt) or $10 without t-shirt.

Limited number of shirts available. Trophies will be awarded to the overall male & female runners; medals to top three finishers in each age group; ribbons to first three overall male & female walkers.

For more information contact Deborah Harjochee at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 301.

Men and women's fast pitch tournament

The Men's and Women's Fast Pitch Tournament will be held June 20 through 22.

Eligibility includes enrolled member of a recognized tribe (enrollment proof of each team member required.)

Tournament awards include: first place, team trophy and 15 pull-over jackets; second place, team trophy and 15 wind shirts; third place, team trophy and 15 t-shirts; one sportsmanship men and women's trophy; one MVP men and women's fleece pullover and nine all-star pullover.

Entry Form: Fast Pitch Tourn.

Circle: Womens Mens

Team Name:______________________

Team Manager/Coach: ______________

Address: ________________________

City: ___________ State: __________

Zip:_______ Home Phone: __________

Work/Cell Phone: ________________

Entry Fee: $175.00 Non-refundable cashiers check or money order payable to the "*Creek Nation Festival.*"
Deadline: June 9
Teams: Limited to 24 men & 16 Women (paid first come first serve)

Fill out form and return it with your entry fee to : Creek Nation Festival
Attn: Ruby Booker P.O. Box 580,
Okmulgee, OK 74447
1-800-482-1979 ext. 244
Brackets will be drawn and teams will be notified by June 13

please see **FESTIVAL**..., page 6

Byrd named Student of the Month

OKMULGEE — Alec Thomas Byrd was recently named April 2003 Student of the Month. He attends Okmulgee Primary School where he is a Kindergarten student in Ms. LeGrand's class. Byrd was recognized for his outstanding achievement in academics and was awarded a certificate of distinction.

Bryd

He is the son of Anthony and Tracie Byrd of Okmulgee.

Alec has a sister, Alivia, age one.

Rangel selected for internship

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Anna Rangel, a prelaw sociology criminology major at the University of Oklahoma has been selected to participate in the Washington Internship for Native Students for the summer 2003. It is a ten week program for students held on the American University campus. She was selected on the basis of academics, leadership, campus involvement, and by a tribal representative recommendation. Rangel is one of the 100 students that have been selected nationwide to attend the internship.

While at O.U. she is serving as a resident advisor, retention aide scholar, and the Norman Area Red Cross Executive Board youth member serving as campus representative for the university. She is also a member of the Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity and is listed on the Dean's Honor Roll.

Anna was selected as the Creek Nation Female Student of the Year in 2001 by Chief Perry Beaver.

She is the daughter of Joe and Virginia Rangel. Her grandparents are the late Leonard and Mary Bevenue, all of Sapulpa.

Births and birthdays

WILLIAM LITTLE AXE

MIAMI — William Dennis Little Axe was born December 26 at Integris Baptist Regional to Troy and Claudia Little Axe.

He weighed seven pounds, nine ounces, and was twenty-one and one half inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Claude and Belinda Tyner of Tulsa. His maternal great-grandparents were the late William and Vera Tyner, and the late Julia Harjo Byrd.

Little Axe

Paternal grandparents are Troy and Joanne Little Axe of Bartlesville. William's paternal great-grandparents are John Little Axe and the late Lillian Little Axe, and the late Joe and Agnes Kitchkommie.

Okmulgee citizen serving in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Dena DeLaune, Muscogee (Creek) citizen, is serving in 'Operation Iraqi Freedom'. The twenty-year-old is part of the 864th Engineering Battalion and serves as a specialist. The Army unit was the first support unit in Iraq during the war.

DeLaune

DeLaune, who is the daughter of Georgeann DeLaune, is a member of Yardeka Baptist Church and Kialegee Tribal Town. She will soon be promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Girl celebrates birthday with ladybug theme

OKMULGEE — Alivia Ann Byrd celebrated her first birthday with a ladybug theme party at her home. Several friends and family members were present to help celebrate her first year.

A. Bryd

She is the daughter of Anthony and Tracie Byrd.

Her maternal grandparents are David and Debbie Walker and paternal grandmother is Melinda Byrd, all of Okmulgee.

Byrd's great-grandparents are Nadine and the late Harold Walker and the late Ann and Mervin Sterner.

Alivia has one brother, Alec.

Girl celebrates second birthday

KANSAS — Chloe Alexus Lee Sanders celebrated her second birthday November 1st with a dinner with family and friends.

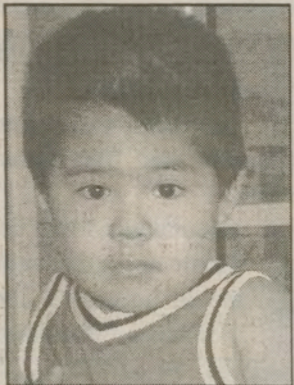
She is the daughter of Jerrod and Sheena Sanders of Kansas.

Her grandparents are Rev. Jesse and Patricia Williams of Kansas and great-grandmother is Velma McGeeley of Holdenville.

Boy celebrates with McDonald's party

HENRYETTA — Legend Falcon Taylor celebrated his third birthday at McDonald's Playland with family and friends.

He is the son of J.R. and Melinda Taylor of Henryetta.


Taylor

His maternal grandparents are Sonny and Betsy Taryole of Henryetta.

Paternal grandparents are Sally Ann Taylor and the late Walter Taylor of Ryal.

His maternal great-grandparents are Lillie and the late Tom Gouge and Sophie Taryole all of Henryetta and the late Van Taryole of Nuyaka.

Taylor's paternal great-grandparents are Edna and the late Martin Mitchell of Henryetta; and the late Lizzie Tiger; Marchie Taylor; and Sarah Harjo of Henryetta.

Taylor belongs to the Wind Clan and Peach Ground and is the son of the Bird Clan and Nuyaka Tribal Town.

He has one brother, Ashton, age nine.

14th Annual Oklahoma Book Awards

Joy Harjo receives the Arrell Gibson Award for Lifetime Achievement

TULSA — Finalists in the 2003 Oklahoma Book Awards competition have been declared.

Joy Harjo, who makes her home in Hawaii, is a Tulsa native. She was nominated in poetry and also is to receive the Arrell Gibson Award for Lifetime Achievement for her complete body of work.

Festival

continued from page 5

Intertribal Powwow and Stompdance

The Intertribal Powwow and Stompdance will be held June 20th and 21st at the Omniplex, co-hosted by Vietnam Era Veterans Intertribal Association. The Powwow will be held June 20th and 21st. The stompdance will be held June 20th at 11:30 p.m.

Powwow contests include first, second, and third place adult categories in: fancy shawl/jingle; traditional/grass; men's fancy; southern cloth; straight; and tiny tot prizes.

A special invitation to all princesses and drums welcome.

Contestants must make Friday exhibition and Saturday grand entry. Full regalia required to receive prize money. Registration is June 20th from 6-9 p.m., prior to exhibition dance at no cost to compete. All times and details subject to change. For more information contact Jill Primeaux at 918-756-4224, ext. 25.

Entertainment

The entertainment at this year's festival will include a variety of genre from country, pop, rock and blues. Some of the artist performing will include Eddy Raven, Jana, Redbone, Over the Hill-Billys, Black Hawk Blues, Smilin' Vic Band, and Red Dawn Blues Band.

The Country Music show begins at 7 p.m, June 20th. The saturday blues, pop and rock show will begin at 2 p.m, June 21st. All shows will be held at the Claude A. Cox Omniplex stage. Come early for the best seating.

This year's entertainment is brought to you by the MCN National Council and Gaming Operations Authority Board.

BESSIE COOPER

NUYAKA — Funeral services for Bessie Cooper were held March 31 at Nuyaka Church with Revs. Wilson Hicks and Stanley Roberts officiating.

She was born December 21, 1916 in Hanna to Bunner and Bettie Simmons Hicks. Cooper loved to sew, garden, quilt, fish, cook and can, loved chickens and ducks.

She married Sam Cooper in August 1939. She was a long time resident of Castle.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; daughter, Minnie Fixico; three brothers; two sisters; one grandson; and one great-grandson.

Survivors include: husband; seven sons, Richard, Ray, and Larry of Scottsdale, Arizona, Russell and Kelly of Mesa, Arizona, Steve of Apache Junction, Arizona, and Sanford of Ft. McDowell, Arizona; two daughters, Lillian Fixico of Midwest City and Roberta Cooper of Shawnee; sister, Lois Harley of Henryetta; forty-one grandchildren; and thirty-nine great-grandchildren.

MARY HOAG

WELEETKA — Funeral services for Mary Lee Scott Hoag were held April 22 at Alabama Baptist Church.

She was born August 14, 1929 to Louisa and Alec Scott in Weleetka.

Hoag attended Eufaula Boarding School in 1938-1940 and graduated from Weleetka High School in 1947.

In 1978, she began working as a bus driver for Indian Transportation of Native American Coalition of Tulsa. She became a dispatcher in 1979 and then manager in 1980. Mary was also employed with the Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center and retired from the work force in 1997. She enjoyed playing skip-bo, bingo, and watching ballgames.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; sister, Helen Fixico; and two brothers, George and Bill Scott.

Survivors include: nine children, Donna Neel of Claremore, Dean Welch of Inola, Sue Weaver of Pawhuska, Debbie Sandlin of Weleetka, Randy Heller of Dennison, Texas, Dodie Syfert of Enid, Eddie Stanke of Tulsa, Denise Adams of Sand Springs, and Tracy Stanke of Sallisaw; brother, Robert Wood of Sasakwa; two sisters, Hepsie Harjo of Weleetka and Louise Earls of Ada; twenty-eight grandchildren; sixteen great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

EDMOND LOWE

HANNA — Funeral services for Edmond "Eddie" Lowe were held March 15 at Trenton Baptist Church with Revs. Malcolm Tiger and Mitchell Taylor officiating.

He was born to Tom and Mandy Proctor in Hanna on July 22, 1944. Lowe joined the military in January 1962 in which he completed a series of training and achieved various medals both awarded and unlisted, he went and fought in War in Korea, Vietnam, and visited many foreign places which he was stationed.

Lowe went to college to be an electrician and always attended training's and vo-tech's. His pastimes were he loved to read, be among friends and family, travel and always wanting to try new things.

His highest achievement was the one he received from God when he was born again. He enjoyed the singing, prayers, and the bible studies the churches brought to him while he laid in the hospital.

Survivors include: his wife, Martha of the home; sons, Eddie Jr. of Okmulgee, Kelly of the home, and Ronnie of Checotah; daughters, Maria Hill, Kimberly and Corrina Lowe, all of the home; twenty-three grandchildren; and a host of cherished relatives and friends.

BETSY PROCTOR

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Betsy Lou Proctor were held at Sand Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Harry Anderson officiating.

She was born September 8, 1940 to Dave Bunner and Eloise Proctor.

Betsy was raised in Wetumka by her mother and stepfather, Sam Proctor. She graduated from Wetumka High School. Following graduation she attended nursing school in Albuquerque, New Mexico where she received training as an LPN. Proctor had worked for many years at the Creek Nation Hospital in Okemah.

Proctor

She was a long time member of the Sand Creek Baptist Church.

Her pastimes include beadwork and horseback riding.

Preceding her in death were: grandparents, Betsy and Bunny Harjo; mother; and uncles, David, Nixie, and Lewis Harjo.

Survivors include: her husband, Roy of Talihina; cousins; and other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were members of Sand Creek Baptist Church. Honorary pallbearers were Brent Rainwater, Jeff Arnold, and Bronco Lane Harjo.

Interment was at the Harjo family cemetery located west of Wetumka.

DELLA SMITH

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Della Mae Billings Smith were held March 28 at Greenwood Cemetery.

She was born July 15, 1916 in Eufaula to Frank M. and Leah McIntosh Billings.

Smith had been employed as a meat packer and a nurse. She married Dave Smith in the 1940's in San Francisco, California.

Preceding her in death were: her husband; parents; brother, Frank; and two sisters, Alice and Kitty Mae.

Survivors include: son, Charles Billen of Jones; brother, Robert Billings of Eufaula; sister, Mary Lou Phillips of Arkansas; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

LEWIS TIMOTHY JR.

EUFAULA–Funeral services for Lewis "Sonny" Timothy Jr. were held at Okfuskee Baptist Church with Rev. Dion Francis officiating and assisted by Rev. Mitchell Beaver.

Lewis was born June 25, 1942 in Eufaula to Lewis and Mary Lewis Timothy Sr. He married Peggy Perry in June 2000.

He was a disabled veteran having served in the U.S. Marines during the Vietnam War from February 1964 and honorably discharged February 1968. He attended school in Eufaula and graduated from Sequoyah High School.

He was baptized July 1955 by Rev. Bama Bear and George Smith and was affiliated with the Okfuskee Baptist Church. Lewis was a member of the VFW in Oklahoma City. He loved to have conversations with people, his pets, to laugh and tell funny stories, and enjoyed volunteering his services like wheeling people around and getting them refreshments at the VA Medical Center in Oklahoma City.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; grandmother, Annie Sarnie; sisters, Elsie Mae Smith, Liza Pena; Jeriena and Ramone Timothy; brother, John Timothy; and son, Jack LeFlore.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; children, Ellen and David LeFlore of the home, Jacqueline of Lawton, Sandra Castro of Oklahoma City, Barbara Johnson of Harrah, Cinnamon Kelley of Coweta; two brothers, Noah Timothy Sr. of Eufaula and Mose Timothy of Tulsa; three sisters, Mary Nell of Ft. Smith, Ella Mae of San Carlos, Arizona, and Stella Feeling of Eufaula; thirteen grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Pallbearers include: David LeFlore; Terry Johnson, Jr.; Jackie Jr. and Chris Feeling; John Timothy; and Thomas Buie, Sr. Honorary pallbearers were: Bobby Sanders; Franklin Asbury; Jackson Narcomey; Jack Feeling Sr.; and Johnny Tiger Sr.

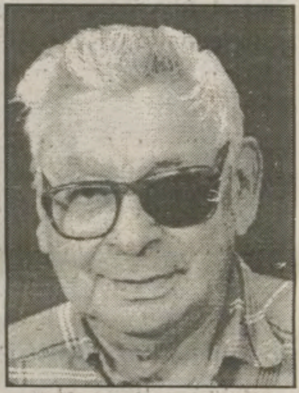
Interment was at Okfuskee Cemetery. Military rites were conducted by the Creek Nation Color Guard.

LOUIS WILEY

DUSTIN — Funeral services for Louis Mose "Speedy" Wiley were held March 26 at Thlewarhle Baptist Church with Revs. Eugene Whitlow and Jimmy Alexander officiating.

He was born January 2, 1923 in Dustin to Mariah and Mose Wiley.

After graduating Valedictorian from Graham High School, he worked as dental lab technician in the U.S. Army during World War II. After an honorable discharge, he was drafted to play 3-A baseball in San Antonio. He played semi-pro basketball on an Oklahoma all-Indian Basketball team in the late 1940's. Speedy was a skilled carpenter for 35 years, specializing as a rafter cutter for prefab homes on SAC Airforce Base and also was a general contractor in Elk City.


Wiley

He was a member of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and a member of the deer clan.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; two brothers, Wilburn and Charles Mose Wiley; three sisters, Beatrice Coachman, Madeline and Eloise Wiley; and two granddaughters, Dana Sue Wiley and Mariah Dawn Bearchum.

Survivors include: three children, Roger Wiley of Osage, Madeline Wiley of Waitsburg, Washington, and Donna Wiley of Tulsa; two sisters, Etta Conner of Glenpool and Frances Miller of Weleetka; Bettie Wiley of Tulsa; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and a host of friends and other relatives.

Interment was at the Wiley-Watson family cemetery.

Religion

Ward Coachman Annual Gospel Singing

BRAGGS — Sand Springs Baptist Church will host "The Ward Coachman Annual Gospel Singing" May 25th at 7 p.m.

Singers and everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring your own lawn chairs.

The master of ceremonies will be Curtis Kinney.

The church is located one mile south on Highway 10 and one mile west. Signs will be posted.

For more information, call Curtis Kinney at 918-682-4703.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending March 31, 2003
Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending March 31, 2003 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditure, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending March 31, 2003. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending March 31, 2003.

The **budget** figure represents the amounts approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of March 31, 2003.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

PROGRAM	BUDGETS	ENCUMBERED	EXPENDED	BALANCE
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	261,208.00	0.00	0.00	261,208.00
TREASURY	4,694.00	0.00	1,463.00	3,231.00
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	57,709.00	55,824.00	1,885.00	0.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	1,976,737.00	84,779.00	1,136,800.00	755,158.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	1,738,449.00	17,469.00	329,823.00	1,391,157.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	3,082,345.00	61,876.00	1,423,203.00	1,597,266.00
CONSUMER LOANS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CREEK NATION BINGO	11,177,561.00	424,350.00	3,076,308.00	7,676,903.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	491,376.00	11,985.00	319,372.00	160,019.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	0.00	0.00	36,790.00	(36,790.00)
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	2,182.00	0.00	0.00	2,182.00
CODIFICATION	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
4-H CLUB	0.00	0.00	6,657.00	(6,657.00)
READING IS FUNDAMENTAL	1,895.00	0.00	1,890.00	5.00
TRIBAL BUDGET	269,613.00	34,986.00	48,674.00	185,953.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	1,671,582.00	794,721.00	324,353.00	552,508.00
HEALTH EDUCATION	6,053.00	0.00	0.00	6,053.00
WIA-TITLE I	1,014.00	0.00	1,014.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE I '01	5,199.00	0.00	5,199.00	0.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '01	12,481.00	0.00	11,410.00	1,071.00
WIA-TITLE I '02	548,841.00	3,104.00	381,709.00	164,028.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '02	88,195.00	3,687.00	72,188.00	12,320.00
WELFARE TO WORK	6,410.00	0.00	5,505.00	905.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	1,656.00	0.00	0.00	1,656.00
HUD-NAHASDA '00	6,372,586.00	0.00	414,570.00	5,958,016.00
HUD-SPAULPA CLINIC	750,000.00	620,492.00	129,508.00	0.00
HUD-ROSS '01	96,231.00	0.00	53,845.00	42,386.00
HUD-NAHASDA '01	13,168,232.00	42,157.00	2,023,570.00	11,102,505.00
HUD-DRUG ELIMINATION	83,967.00	0.00	83,967.00	0.00
HUD-FOOD DIST. BLDG	750,000.00	633,589.00	0.00	116,411.00
HUD-NAHASDA '02	17,247,188.00	0.00	0.00	17,247,188.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	1,214,308.00	0.00	1,214,308.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	3,465,113.00	0.00	2,197,933.00	1,267,180.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '01	339,733.00	17.00	307,482.00	32,234.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '01	28,342.00	0.00	28,342.00	0.00
LIHEAP '02	5,911.00	0.00	2,857.00	3,054.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '02	179,518.00	1,868.00	124,477.00	53,173.00
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '02	682,444.00	6,593.00	451,362.00	224,489.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '02	841,771.00	13,559.00	427,749.00	400,463.00
HEAD START '02	535,275.00	0.00	471,298.00	63,977.00
TITLE IV-B '02	154,240.00	0.00	87,107.00	67,133.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '02	243,214.00	32,473.00	70,875.00	139,866.00
LIHEAP '03	117,186.00	0.00	58,888.00	58,298.00
CCDBG-DISCRETIONARY '03	1,526,073.00	0.00	2,724.00	1,523,349.00
CCDBG - MANATORY '03	2,545,476.00	16,805.00	104,138.00	2,424,533.00
HEADSTART '03	2,020,320.00	27,331.00	636,033.00	1,356,956.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '02	5,120.00	0.00	5,120.00	0.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '03	0.00	2,929.00	144,441.00	(147,370.00)
FEMA	4,326.00	0.00	4,326.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	0.00	0.00	1,666.00	(1,666.00)
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	516,446.00	0.00	182,155.00	334,291.00
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	75,334.00	12,900.00	46,478.00	15,956.00
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	0.00	2,318.00	8,826.00	(11,144.00)
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	3,925.00	0.00	1,303.00	2,622.00
GAMING PROGRAM INCOME	29,000.00	2,219.00	12,610.00	14,171.00
CITIZENSHIP BOARD PROG INC	10,425.00	5,142.00	4,035.00	1,248.00
TRIBAL OVERVIEW HISTORY	10,194.00	0.00	10,194.00	0.00
LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC	0.00	0.00	225.00	(225.00)
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	4,935,450.00	40,204.00	2,053,664.00	2,841,582.00
DOI-ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP	8,478.00	0.00	902.00	7,576.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	261,264.00	200.00	52,845.00	208,219.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.'00	22,932.00	0.00	22,932.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '01	14,810.00	1,583.00	9,941.00	3,286.00
EUFAULA DORM '01	568,457.00	17,691.00	211,666.00	339,100.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV '01	78,052.00	0.00	4,687.00	73,365.00
LAMAR ROAD	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
LITTLE CUSSETH CHURCH RD	157,389.00	0.00	0.00	157,389.00
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	398,506.00	20,066.00	331,690.00	46,750.00
THEWARLE CHURCH ROAD	188,689.00	141,117.00	1,583.00	45,989.00
PORTER ROAD	135,752.00	0.00	2,020.00	133,732.00
OLD BIXBY ROAD	803,712.00	800.00	725,990.00	76,922.00
SALEM ROAD	156,323.00	2,451.00	57,486.00	96,386.00
SKELLY/HASKELL	702,573.00	95,000.00	5,759.00	601,814.00
METHODIST CHURCH ROAD	192,334.00	0.00	186,723.00	5,611.00
HECTORVILLE ROAD	1,284,685.00	0.00	525.00	1,284,160.00
SUMMIT SOUTH ROAD	198,094.00	192,277.00	267.00	5,550.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '02	5,756.00	63.00	5,693.00	0.00
JOM '02	478,702.00	28,010.00	373,216.00	77,476.00
EUFAULA DORM '02	929,495.00	49,743.00	358,871.00	520,881.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '03	11,600.00	0.00	0.00	11,600.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '03	303,038.00	309.00	59,200.00	243,529.00
CALVIN NORTH ROAD	1,731,488.00	1,714,173.00	0.00	17,315.00
STIDHAM ROAD	450,000.00	450,000.00	0.00	0.00
ARBEKA ROAD	2,172,620.00	2,158,220.00	0.00	14,400.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	3,245,064.00	48,000.00	102,835.00	3,094,229.00
EUFAULA DORM '99	34,734.00	0.00	4,550.00	30,184.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	44,234.00	0.00	0.00	44,234.00
VICTIM'S ASSISTANCE	28,222.00	0.00	5,944.00	22,278.00
DRUG COURT	98,022.00	1,097.00	19,204.00	77,721.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	132,637.00	1,959.00	30,110.00	100,568.00
EPA	40,199.00	0.00	5,009.00	35,190.00
SAPULPA CLINIC-ICDBG	766,271.00	0.00	0.00	766,271.00
MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	749,115.00	2,242.00	419,398.00	327,475.00
MUSKOGEE OFFICE BLDG	1,153,681.00	39,873.00	1,024,375.00	89,433.00
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	4,000.00	200.00	0.00	3,800.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	0.00	110,996.00	21,595.00	(132,591.00)
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	0.00	0.00	2,890.00	(2,890.00)
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	810,106.00	26,578.00	195,855.00	587,673.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	1,796,939.00	55,752.00	1,030,700.00	710,487.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	76,356.00	2,146.00	83,675.00	(9,465.00)
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	73,000.00	35,663.00	26,685.00	10,652.00
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	0.00	0.00	1,154,136.00	(1,154,136.00)
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
TOTALS	**99,777,277.00**	**8.149.586.00**	**25,090,026.00**	**66,537,665.00**

The Muscogee Nation News

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Council House adds new exhibition to its resources

by Gerald Wofford

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Cultural and Historic Preservation is proud to present, *Native Lands: Indians and Georgia,* an exhibition exploring 500 years of Native American history in Georgia through images, texts, narratives, audio tapes and videos.

The exhibition opened on May 1 at the Creek Council House Museum, located on 106 W. 6th street in downtown Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Native Lands: Indians and Georgia celebrates the state's original beginning with the Mississippian peoples and continuing with their descendants, the Creeks and the Cherokees, both of whom were eventually expelled from the Southeast in what was called the Trail of Tears. The exhibition includes audiotapes of Native Americans reading historic accounts, as well as videotapes of contemporary Indians discussing important issues of significance to their communities.

INDIANS & GEORGIA
Native Lands

Pictured above, in front of the Native American hitory exhibition, are: Joyce Bear, Cultural Preservation Manager, and Ted Isham, Creek Council House Museum Curator. *photo submitted*

The creation of the Native Lands originally stemmed from the Atlanta History Center's desire to tell the story of "first nation" inhabitants in a permanent gallery at the Center. Long before the first European settlers came to what is now called Georgia, the Mississippian Indians developed complex societies on these lands-complete with art, music, ceremony, agriculture, architecture and trade industries. Their descendants, the Creeks and Cherokees, left additional landmarks and cultural legacies prior to their 1830's removal from the state on the Trail of Tears. Unlike most accounts, which stop with the Trail of Tears, the exhibition explores recent history and their continuing connections to Georgia through the voices and artistry of contemporary Creeks and Cherokees. Highlights of the exhibit include a 1700's Creek town square replica and an 1800's Cherokee family hearth scene showing the

please see **Museum**..., page 5

Who will fill their shoes?

Grover Wind and Bob White of Turkey Springs utilized their skills as a coach and player to create a legacy in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival. Players such as Sam Beaver, Dean Williams, Tom Barnes, Deborah (Thompson) Burgess, Karen Long, and Lou White have also created a legacy for others to follow. Teams such as Red Race, Oklahoma Kansas, The Roofers, and Talihina Choctaws at one point and time reeked havoc at the festival. This year will mark the 29th Annual Creek Nation Festival. Who will be the next to create their own legacy. *(see page 6 & 7 for schedule of event)*

Turkey
Turkey Springs
Broken Arrow

Vietnam veteran remembers and honors sacrifices of fellow comrades

by Gerald Wofford

Robert 'Bill' Jones is a Muscogee (Creek) Citizen and a Vietnam War Veteran. He served in the United States Army from 1965 to 1970.

One thing that has always remained on Jones's heart is that his fellow comrades who served along with him in the Nation's longest war would never be forgotten. The sacrifices made by those living and those deceased would be honored, remembered and passed on, forever.

For that very reason, Jones has worked extensively to have the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial *Moving Wall* brought to Creek Country. This year, he sees that goal come to pass. On June 12 through the 18, the *Moving Wall* will be located at the Creek Nation Complex in Okmulgee.

The *Moving Wall* went on display nationally in 1984. Two structures of the wall now travel the country from April through November, spending a week at each location. According to the 2003 display dates, this will be the only scheduled appearance of the monument in this state and on sovereign tribal land.

The *Moving Wall* is actually a half-size replica of the Vietnam Memorial. Unveiled in November of 1982, this elongated black granite wall contains the names, in chronological order of the date of casualty, the names of the fallen in what was the country's most controversial war. Beginning with the first two names at the apex of the wall-two American advisors who were killed on July 8, 1959 to the last casualties in connection with the war that occurred on May 15, 1975.

The monument like the war itself was created against a background of strong opinions and heated suggestions. Then U.S. Secretary of the Interior James Watt would not permit the memorial's construction. This was due in part to several protests, including political and even from veterans saying the project was a "black gash of shame" and that it focused too much on death and shame. Finally a

Jones

please see **Moving Wall**..., page 5

Woman seeks more information

Editor:

I am trying to find out about some land and I am not sure really where it is suppose to be. My grandfather was, Loney Frye, and he is now deceased and his daughter, Pauline Frye, is my biological mother and she is not telling us anything. She avoids the question when we ask her about some land out there that our grandpa may have left for us kids. I have been told that I need to get his certified death certificate and I am in the process of getting this done. It has taken a while for me to get all this information that I need, so if there is anyone who may have any information on any land owned by him or what was done with it please let me know. This is very important to me and my brothers who are also Creek Indians and are enrolled with the Tribe.

Also I am wanting to learn the Creek language for myself and to also teach my children the language, too. I would also like to know how I could get my hands on some tapes or something so I can be able to pronounce these words. This is also important to me because I have nobody around here in Cherokee, North Carolina, to teach me my language and I want my children to know about their native lands and people and to know their language and about the history of the Creek people and that includes the dances and songs and everything. I feel a little odd because people ask me about my tribe and all I can say is I don't know, I have never been taught of my Tribe even though I want to know all I can learn.

Also, I have been doing a lot of thinking about moving and finding a different job but I am not sure about all of this yet and I would like to know if there was anyway that I could get some information on housing and jobs out there. Right now I am working at the Boys & Girls Clubs of America in Cherokee and it is a part-time job. I like it but with all my children it is kind of hard to take care of them and pay the bills. I am trying to get in back in school out here for Psychology and that is mainly because I work with about a hundred and fifty kids everyday that I am at work and it would help me do my job better in seeing and pin pointing out if a child needed help or more than we thought. If you have any information, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at: berryflavor@hotmail.com or P.O. Box 2048, Cherokee, North Carolina, 28719.

Sharon Frye, Cherokee, North Carolina

Tribal citizen has concerns about election

Editor:

It certainly is shocking to think that an election amending the constitution of the Muscogee Nation in a radical, fundamental way would only interest 245 Muscogee citizens living in the Nation's jurisdiction. It was even more shocking to me, as I was turned away from my polling place in Glenpool. The poll attendants were unable to find my name on the list, although I vote in nearly every election. Because of my concern and desire to cast my vote, I asked what we could do to get my vote in the ballot box. I was given a nice smile and a shrug of the shoulder. "Call the election board and you can vote next fall," I was told.

I did call the election board, and was told I could have voted even if my name didn't appear on the registration list. This "challenge" vote would have counted. I know that when 1,200 voters decide an election, each vote is very important, and I regret being miss-informed and cheated of my right to vote.

William R. Breckinridge, Leonard

Man wishes to congratulate MNN personnel

Editor:

I would like to congratulate our *Muscogee Nation News* personnel for keeping the old & young Creeks interested in their tribal language through the means of graphic pictures of Muscogee Creek names & common everyday objects that we see and never pause to try and pronounce their native language names.

I am keeping all the Creek/Yuchi pages written in the tribal languages. The March news graphics on "wild onions" was a smash-hit for some of my children and grandchildren. I take the graphics and translate their meaning and how to pronounce the words by using English phonics.

I have had a good response from one of my daughters who belongs to an all Native Indian Church Members Club that meets monthly. They enjoyed the study about the "wild onions", and would like to have more of the same.

Keep up the good work and may we continue to have these studies in our *Muscogee Nation News*. *Mvto.*

W. Bill Yardy Jr., Shawnee

Website available for Native American soldier's

Editor:

If any Creek Citizen has a son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandson, granddaughter, wife, husband, sister or brother in the military who are currently deployed. Please visit the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma website at http://www.aicco.org/troops.asp and click the link to send us their name, tribal affiliation, hometown and state, and if possible, their overseas contact address and if known, their e-mail address overseas.

Sherry Girty, Lawrence, Kansas

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

My first item for this month's information is the Veteran's Memorial. I have received letters about Veteran's who were killed in action and their names do not appear on the memorial. I will again request that if any servicemen K.I.A. are not listed you should get the information to my office in documented form and later this year we will add the new names to the memorial. On behalf of the Nation, I apologize for any missed names for these are our greatest heroes.

Yesterday, I received a call from a concerned citizen who objected to the upcoming Toughman contest at this year's festival. He said that this is a brutal fight and that the young kids would likely try to manipulate this scene at home. I agree with the person and think a more family type program would be more appropriate for the Creek Nation Festival.

Congratulations, to the Sapulpa elders and their new nutrition center in north Sapulpa. I was supposed to be there but that day I was involved in the tribal budget process and was unable to leave.

On May 10th, I attended a meeting with our tribal Creek citizens at the Dallas Inter-tribal Center. We presently have absentee citizens throughout America and they are eager to learn about the Creek Nation. A great dinner was served and many new friends were made. Good luck to the Texas Creeks on getting organized in the near future.

May 16th was Senior Olympics Day at the Creek Nation Complex. **Gloria Bezzell**, our Senior Service Manager has done a great job on putting this program together. I was very surprised at the great crowd that showed up. I don't have the names of the winner of each category but we were all winners. Many called and told me of the great time that everyone had and are looking forward to next year. Not even a tornado warning could stop these old folks from dominoes, pool, shuffleboard, etc.

Just today I visited a Creek senior citizen who I received a letter from last week. He stated that he must be the only senior citizen in Okfuskee district who still has an outhouse and no indoor plumbing. After many miles of driving near Clearview, I found his house on their original allotment and no indoor bathroom. This is unfair in this present time with all our income from gaming, etc. I assured him I would find a way to help him. I hope I can. Til next month may everyone be happy and healthy. *Mvto.*

The Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Lucas Taylor, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the March 3 extraordinary session.

Absent were: **Roger Barnett**; Creek District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee District; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Dwayne Lowe,** Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible,** Tulsa District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

- approved (16-0-0) Tribal Resolution 03-020, authorizing the principal chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in Wagoner county, Oklahoma;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron,** Creek; **Phyllis Warrington,** Creek; **Tom Pickering,** McIntosh; **Sandra Parish,** Muskogee; **Sandra Golden,** Okfuskee **Dave Lewis,** Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson,** Okmulgee; **George Almerigi,** Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters,** Okmulgee; **David Nichols,** Okmulgee; **Thomas Yahola,** Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields,** Tukvpvtce; **Ronald Cleghorn,** Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley,** Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill,** Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (16-0-0) NCA 03-064, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Wagoner county, Oklahoma to be used for economic development purposes;
- approved (14-2-0) NCA 03-037, amending NCA 89-135 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing a Creek Nation permanent fund from tribally owned and managed gaming operations) as amended by NCA 94-61, NCA 01-140 and NCA 01-222; amending NCA 99-22, §115 (the Tribal Trade & Commerce Authority act); and repealing NCA 95-105 (the Muscogee (Creek) Nation travel plaza establishment and financing act of 1995); NCA 96-22 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation providing authorization to the Principal Chief to borrow permanent fund monies for the construction of the truck plaza project).

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek and **Gillespie**, Wagoner

April 8 extraordinary session

Absent were: **Judy Aaron**, Creek District; **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Ronald Cleghorn**, Tulsa District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District

Second speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

representatives **Keeper Johnson; Nancy Watson; Judy Aaron; Ron Cleghorn** arrived before vote count was taken;

due to a tie vote the Speaker votes yes

- approved (11-10-0) TR 03-030, authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation gaming operations authority board to exercise temporary jurisdiction and control over the Okemah Indian Gaming Center

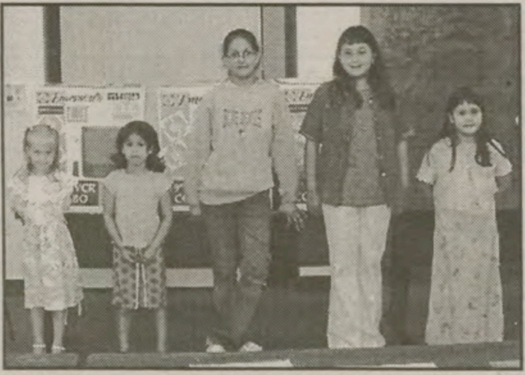
voting no were: **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Kelley**, Tulsa

- approved (20-0-0) TR 03-034, approving the business plan of the Muscogee Nation business enterprise
- approved (20-0-0) NCA 03-082, a special appropriation to the Muscogee Nation Business enterprise for the acquisition of complete technology concepts, L.L.C.

Housing Authority announces local fire and home safety poster contest winners

OKMULGEE — The Housing Authority of the Creek Nation Resident Services announced the local level winners of the AMERIND Risk Management 2003 National Fire and Home Safety Poster Contest. Presentations for the contest were held May 13 at the new Housing Authority building. During the ceremony, the winners were presented with certificates and prizes in their category.

The poster contest is a joint effort of AMERIND and the Indian Housing Authorities with the purpose to make residents aware of the damage and injuries resulting from fires caused each year by children playing with fire. Poster contest coordinator Dean Tiger said the Housing Authority Resident Services work diligently with the various communities and schools within the Creek Nation service area encouraging students to enter the contest.



Pictured are contest winners, from left to right: Jacee Dailey, third place, grades K-3; Taiah Giger, second place, grade K-3; Cara Alexander, first place, grades 7-8; Kelsey Proctor, first place, grades 4-6; and Amberly Proctor, first place, grades K-3. *photo submitted*

The contest is divided into three categories: grades kindergarten through third; grades fourth through sixth; and grades seventh and eighth. First place winners received a 19" TV/VCR combo, second place received a Sony Playstation along with a Nintendo Gameboy, and third place received a personal CD Player.

This years contest winners were: grades kindergarten through third, Amberly Proctor, first place, Hanna Elementary; Taiah Giger, second place, Preston Elementary; Jacee Dailey, third place, Okmulgee Primary School; grades fourth through sixth; Kelsey Proctor, first place, Hanna Elementary; and grades seventh and eighth, Cara Alexander, first place, Wilson Elementary. Okmulgee Fire Chief Bob Hardridge served as judge for the contest for the forth straight year.

Election Information

OKMULGEE — To be eligible to vote you must be tribally enrolled and 18 years of age.

When filing for office you will need the following:

- tribal enrollment card;
- cashiers check or money order in the fee amount;
- proof of resident, must be a resident of district one full calender year;
- copy of deed or statement from landlord; and
- utility bill in candidate's name.

If proof is not sufficient, election board will request further proof. Drivers license will not be accepted as residential proof.

Filing dates are July 21, 22, and 23, from 9 a.m to 4 p.m. The fees for Principal Chief are $550, Second Chief, $425, and Nation Council, $200.

Primary election for Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council representative will be September 20.

General election will be November 8.

Absentee registration deadline will be August 28 and precinct registration deadline is September 10 for primary and October 29 for the general election.

Qualifications for filing:

- 1/4 or more creek;
- an enrolled tribal citizen;
- 18 years of age for national council;
- 30 years of age for Principal Chief and Second Chief;
- reside within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries for one full calendar year;
- must be a tribal registered voter six *months prior* to filing as a candidate; and
- no felony within the last 10 years, a background check will be conducted.

Employees of Creek Nation who file as a candidate must take leave the date of filing

Precinct locations are follows:

Creek District

Bristow Indian Community center and Sapulpa Indian community center

Hughes District

Dustin Indian community center; Holdenville Indian community center and Wetumka Indian community center

McIntosh District

Checotah Indian community center; Eufaula Indian community center; Hanna Indian community center and Ryal, Yardeka Indian community center;

Muskogee District

Muscogee Indian community center

Okfuskee District

Okemah Indian community center and Weleetka Indian community center

Okmulgee District

Dewar Indian community center and Okmulgee Indian community

Tulsa District

Glenpool Indian community center

Wagoner District

Coweta Indian community center

It is important to keep your address up to date with the election board office.

For more information, contact the Election Board Office at (918) 756-8700, Ext. 294.

Eufaula Boarding School creates diabetes program

EUFAULA – Creek Nation Diabetes Program and the Eufaula Boarding School staff and students. developed Muscogee PRIDE, Preventing and Reducing Indian Diabetes Everyday, a diabetes awareness and prevention program

After planning meetings between the Creek Nation Diabetes Program and the Eufaula Boarding School, an after school diabetes awareness and prevention program was created. This program is for 5th thru 10th grade and is held every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:15 p.m. to 4:30 pm. Approximately 25 students are learning how to prevent diabetes through exercise and healthy eating. Each meeting consists of exercise and fun with the last 30 minutes for nutrition and diabetes education.

"Preventing diabetes is really awesome because we have fun while we do it," stated Jordan Brown, Eufaula Boarding School student. "If you exercise then you would be preventing diabetes."

Through a companion program called, "Fitness Frenzy", students are encouraged to develop the daily habit of physical activity. When a student is physically active for 30 minutes or more, they will receive a Fitness Frenzy coupon with their name and activity listed on the coupon. This coupon goes in the Fitness Frenzy box for a drawing every two weeks. The students can win basketballs, footballs, t-shirts, hats, jump ropes, and other fun prizes. These prizes have been provided by the Creek Nation Diabetes Program and Boarding School.

The diabetes dietitian from Eufaula Clinic provides active learning about choosing healthy meals and snacks, and learning about the high risk foods and eating habits that lead many of us toward diabetes. She also is working with the Boarding School kitchen staff in planning healthy meals for the weekly menu. The kitchen prepares a healthy snack for the students participating in the program every Tuesday and Thursday.

Pictured above are members of the Muscogee PRIDE Diabetes Program. *photo submitted*

The Diabetes Program will facilitate this program through the rest of this year and the first semester of next year. Eventually, the program will be administered solely by the Eufaula Boarding School staff as a permanent part of their weekly activities at the school.

"It has been a pleasure working with the Eufaula Boarding School and their staff," stated Scott Robison, Exercise Program Manager. "Their cooperation has been great.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Okemah, and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., July 2 and 16;
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., July 3 ánd 17;
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., July 3 and 17;
- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., July 1 and 15; and
- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., July 1.

Creek elderly housing accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Creek Nation Elderly Housing is now accepting applications for a one bedroom apartment. The rent is based on income and medical expenses. Tenant is responsible for the electric and security deposit of one month's rent.

A dog or cat is allowed, must weigh under 25lbs. There is a $75 pet deposit.

Apartment comes with refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, garbage disposal, and central heat and air. .

Apply at 2710 N. Miami between 8 a.m and 5 p.m.

Political booths available at the festival

OKMULGEE — Information booths for election candidates will be allowed at the Creek Nation festival at a rate of $25 for a 10" X 10" space, no electricity.

Candidate must provide their own set up.

No free food or beverages are to be given out.

For any questions, contact the Principal Chief's office at 1-800-482-1979 or (918) 756-8700 ext. 201.

Indian Health fair and summer sizzler

TULSA — On June 27, from 9 a.m to 2:30 p.m, a health fair and summer sizzler will be held at the Tulsa Creek Indian Community center located at 8611 S. Union.

This event is sponsored by the Muscogee Creek Nation CHR program and TCIC.

There will be hearing and vision screenings, health and dental screenings, foot checks, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, exercise & Nutrition information, blood mobile, drugs/alcohol/tobacco prevention.

The following departments from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will be available to provide information, sign-up, and/or registration: Child development; Citizenship, Election Board; Caregiver Program; Head Start; Lighthorse; Senior Services: and WIC.

Arts and crafts booths space will be free. New Creations and Lively Stones, Seminole, Tulsa Indian Summer Youth Marionette play puppet show, door prizes, face painting, games, and concession available throughout day.

For more information contact TCIC at (918) 298-2464, or Etta Dickerson at (918) 282-6328 or Bonnie Jones at (918) 756-1941.

Reunions

Scott reunion

BROKEN ARROW — The descendants of Samuel Scott, Nancy McIntosh Scott, Daniel Scott, John Scott, Benny Scott, and Hepsey Scott Lewis will hold their 13th annual Scott family reunion on June 28 at the Broken Arrow community center, located at 1500 S. Main, beginning at 10 a.m.

Each family attending is asked to bring a covered dish, salad, or desert for the noon meal. The meats and drinks will be supplied. If you need more information call Helena McIntosh Girod at (918) 451-1932 or e-mail at hgirod@cinemareview.com.

Bruner reunion

LAMAR — The Bruner family reunion will be held July 4 and 5 at Middle Creek #1 Baptist Church with a weiner roast beginning at 5 p.m.

On the June 5 lunch will begin at 11 a.m.

For more information contact Brenda Simpson at (405) 736-0728 or Abbie Larney at (405) 379-3852.

McCombs reunion

EUFAULA — The annual McCombs family reunion will be held July 5 at the Tuskegee Indian church. Fellowship will begin at 10:30 a.m followed by a covered dish luncheon at noon.

Members of CHR staff receive recognition award at national conference

RENO, NEVADA — The National CHR Conference, "CHRs: Healers, Providers, Listeners, Giver and Friend," was held at Silver Legacy on April 21 through 26.

The conference is held once every three years and is an informative conference containing education sessions such as: community health needs; tobacco prevention; exercise; traditional approaches to diabetes prevention; improving access to healthcare; screening for Indian women; effective approaches to health education, and using humor to rekindle the spirit within.

Over 700 CHRs throughout the United States registered for the conference.

Christine Roberts received her 20 year award, a CHR wristwatch, and Bonnie Jones received her 5 year pin. Floyd Bales and Cyndi Gilks were recognized by Cathy Stueckemann, National CHR Coordinator from the National I.H.S Office in Washington, for their outstanding contributions toward the enhancement of the CHR Program. The certificates were signed by Mr. Gary Hartz, P.E., acting Director for Office of Public Health and Cathy Stueckemann, Director of CHR/EMS Programs. Floyd and Cyndi also received a beautiful metal from Indian Health Service. Receiving the same awards were the other Oklahoma CHR Association officers: Woody Hansen, president; Betty Wauahdooah, treasurer; Pam Aguilar, vice-president; and David Murray, parliamentarian.

Floyd Bales and Cyndi Gilks proudly display their recognition awards for exemplary service. *photo submitted*

"I am very honored to receive an award of this type," stated Cyndi Gilks. "I wish to thank the National CHR office for our recognition and especially Dione Harjo, CHR/EMS Area Coordinator, who nominated us for this award. The state of Oklahoma is blessed to have such outstanding programs and most of all for the caring and dedication of the CHRs. The CHRs are the special people who make a program successful. A big thanks to all the CHRs of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

Education

Muscogee girl receives U.S. achievement award

EL RENO — Raven Nicole has received the U.S. Achievement Academy Award and Scholarship. This national award goes to the top five percent American high school students nationwide.

Raven

Raven was also selected for U.S. Ambassador and Who's Who among American high school students. She is maintaining a 4.0 gpa and is a junior in high school. Other honors received is most outstanding model student, national business honor society, honor roll, student council and the national science award. She is currently the president of National American club.

She is the daughter of Charles Tiger and Saundra Scott. Grandparents are Johnson and Billey Scott. Great grandparents are the late Peter Scott; Lena Wolf; Annie Gooden; Sam Tiger; George and Katie Gooden.

Raven is a member of the bird clan and from New Tulsa ceremonial ground.

Barnett place in 4-H

ANADARKO — Kaira Barnett participated in the Caddo County 4-H demonstration speech and appropriate dress competition. She received a blue ribbon in schoolwear and a red ribbon for the demonstration speech in which she spoke of and demonstrated soft pencil creations.

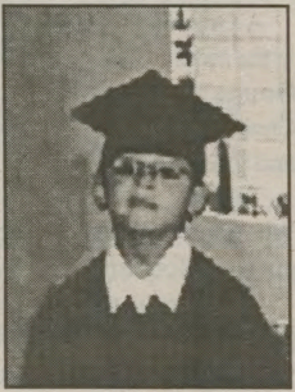
Barnett is in the fifth grade and is currently listed on the Principal's honor roll at Mission Elementary. She is also a peer mediator, library adopter and a member of the 21st century afterschool program as well as 4-H. Kaira was part of the music program entitled "Disney Tune" held April 10 at Warrior Auditorium.

She is the daughter of Keesa and Robbie Aitson of Anadarko and Brandon Barnett of Garden Grove, California.

Maternal grandparents are Peggy Maynahonah of Carnegie and Louis Maynahonah Sr. of Lawrence, Kansas. Paternal grandparents are Jackson Barnett Sr. of McLoud and Peggy Barnett of Garden Grove, CA.

Powell named student of the month

BRISTOW — Jesse Echaswa Powell was named student of the month for October. He attends Gypsy Elementary School where he is in kindergarten.

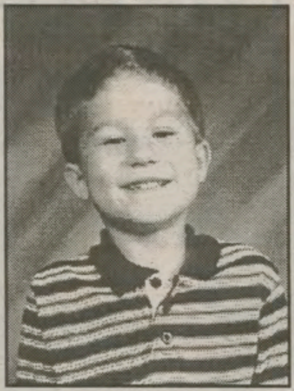

Powell

Powell was awarded in reading, math, and letter sounds. He is in the gifted and talented class and was awarded a trip to the Sam Noble Museum.

He is the son of Arthur and Joann Powell of Bristow.

Boy named April student of the month

OKMULGEE — Patrick O'Brien was chosen student of the month for April at Okmulgee Primary School where he is in kindergarten. O'Brien was awarded a certificate for his outstanding academic achievements.


O'Brien

He is the son of Tami O'Brien of Okmulgee and Sean O'Brien of Morris.

Maternal grandparents are Don and Jona Rade of Broken Arrow, paternal grandparents are Michael and Beverly O' Brien of Muskogee and he is the great grandson of Ginger O'Brien of Tulsa.

Births

Jaden Blake Jenkins

LAKENHEATH, ENGLAND — Jaden Blake Jenkins was born April 25 at Lakenheath AFB Hospital to Faren and James Jenkins.

Jenkins

He weighed 9 lbs and 9 3/4 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches in length.

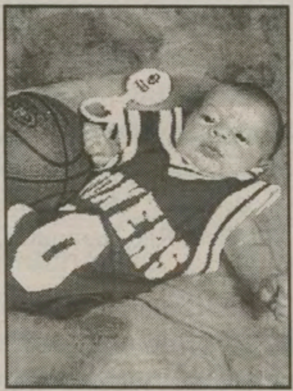
Maternal grandparents are Lahoma and Bobby Schultz of Broken Arrow and Jim and Carmen Donnel of Del City

Paternal grandparents are Cindy and Paul Bunch of Del City and James and Bonnie Robison of Tecumseh Maternal great grandparents are George and the late Mollie Jones Hicks of Dewar.

Paternal great grandparents are Pervie and Ruth Donnel of Nicoma Park.

Alfred Trey Bevenue III

TULSA — Alfred Trey Bevenue III was born March 4 at St. Francis Hospital to Lori and Sonny Bevenue of Eufaula.


Bevenue

He weighed 7 lbs. and 4 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are the late Doris Spirlock of Eufaula and David Tony Spirlock of California

Paternal grandparents are Sonny and Wanda Bevenue of Tulsa.

He has one sister, Brettlyn.

Society

Citizen inducted into the National honor society

MUSKOGEE — Elisa Bezzell, a sophomore at Muskogee High School, was inducted into the National Honor Society with a ceremony held May 6.

The criteria for being selected is you must have at least a 3.3 gpa, participate in at least three school activities, be involved in two community service projects, and hold one leadership position in the school.

Bezzell

Elisa has been on the Principal's and Superintendent's honor roll, has volunteered with Volunteers of America Books R Cool program in which she entertained preschool children as Clifford the Big Red Dog, and volunteered in the Muskogee office of Volunteers of America; she also volunteered at the "Spring Celebration" sponsored by the Muscogee Nation community partnership board.

Elisa served as the Sergeant-at-arms for student council this year and was reelected to serve in her junior year. She is a member of the high school basketball team; fast pitch and slow pitch softball teams and the Muscogee Indian Community centers.

She is the daughter of Gloria Narcomey-Bezzell and granddaughter of Jackson Narcomey.

Great grandmother is the late Frances Lewis-Narcomey.

Museum

continued from page 1

creative blending of Native and European cultures.

The Museum, along with the Office of Cultural and Historic Preservation will be hosting a series of lectures during the Creek Nation Festival June 19 through the 21. The lectures will include Creek history as well as a special book signing and reception. The book signing is still in the planning stages. Books being considered are *Around the Sacred Fire,* by James Treat, and *Creek Indian Medicine Ways,* by Dave Lewis. Everyone is invited to attend this event on June 21.

Ted Isham, Creek Council House Museum Curator is excited about this unique exhibition. "We're really pleased to have it here," said Isham, who credits Creek Nation Cultural and Historic Preservation Manager Joyce Bear as being instrumental for its appearance in Okmulgee.

Isham also commented on the specific period the exhibition focuses on. "We, that is the tribes that are in Oklahoma, don't always get to hear too much from the east side of the removal, as I'm sure they , eastern based tribes, do not hear too much from the west, or from us here."

For more information, contact Ted Isham at the Creek Council House Museum at (918) 756-2324. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. till 4:30 p.m.

Moving wall

continued from page 1

promise was proposed with the statue buidling of 3 military servicemen being added to the memorial. Adminsitrators associated with the wall estimate that more than 4 million visit the monument each year at its location in Washington, D.C.

Of course, the *Moving Wall* is created for those who can't make the pilgrimage to the Nation's Capital to experience it. Jones is hoping for strong support from the community, especially for an Opening Day ceremony scheduled for 10 a.m. on June 12.

"This ceremony is not just for Vietnam Vets, but to honor all veterans of all wars," said Jones. A 'Flag Day' ceremony will also be held on June 14 beginning at 10 a.m.

29th ANNUAL CREEK NATION FESTIVAL

TUESDAY

Highlights June 17

Pageant

At 7 p.m. a Senior Ms. and Little Miss Mvskoke Creek Nation pageant will be held at 7 p.m. in the Independent Agencies (mound) Building Auditorium.

Contestants for the Senior Ms. pageant will be judged in the areas of: poise; personality; dress; and talent.

The following are contestants for the Senior Mvskoke Nation: Fannie Lewis Barnett, Dewar; Mary Alexander Peak, Tulsa; Joann Powell, Bristow; Martha Jane (Chalakee) Reece, Coweta; Katie Smith, Coweta; and Leona Tiger Sullivan, Broken Arrow.

Contestants for the Little Miss Division I and II pageant will be judged in the areas of: poise; personality; dress; and age appropriate questions.

The following are contestants for the Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Division I: Dreamer Kendra Greene, Sapulpa and Dayline Janell Greene, Sapulpa.

The following are contestants for the Little Miss Mvskoke Nation Division II: Kiley Nicole Banks, Muskogee; Andrea Michelle Hooper, Sapulpa; and Laranda L. Parish, Muskogee.

Contestants for the Little Miss Division III pageant will be judged in the areas of: poise; personality; dress; and one page essay, *What being a Muscogee (Creek) citizen means to me.*

The following are contestants for the Mvskoke Nation Division III: Kelsey Janelle Gibson, Sapulpa.

The deadline date for applications has passed, therefore, no additional entries will be accepted. For more information, contact the pageant committee at (918) 758-1463 or 1-800-205-3705.

THURSDAY

Highlights June 19

Pageant

The Miss and Junior Miss Mvskoke Creek Nation pageant will be held at 7 p.m. in the Independent Agencies (mound) Building Auditorium.

Contestants for the Miss Mvskoke pageant will be judged in the areas of: poise; personality; photogenic; dress; talent; and impromptu questions on current tribal and world events.

The following are contestants for the Miss Mvskoke Nation: Ashley Jo Berryhill, Okmulgee; Katie Nicole Burden, Weleetka; Samantha Renee Coon, Castle; Meredith Lynne Goodvoice, Okmulgee; Alisabeth Rae Narcomey, Tulsa; and Ashton Renee Smith, Dustin.

Contestants for the Junior Miss pageant will be judged in the areas of: poise; personality; photogenic; dress; and essay on a topic of their choice.

The deadline date for applications has passed, therefore, no additional entries will be accepted. For more information, contact the pageant committee at (918) 758-1463 or 1-800-205-3705.

FRIDAY

Highlights June 20

Junior Olympics

The junior Olympics will begin at 7:30 a.m., June 20 at the Harmon stadium.

The Olympics offer Indian youth ages six to 15 the opportunity to compete in track events. The events are: 30 meter dash; 50 meter dash; 100 meter dash; 200 meter dash; 400 meter dash; 400 meter relay, one mile run; hoop shot; and softball throw.

The deadline for registration was May 23. Volunteers are needed for this event. For more information contact LeeAnna Tomah or Dawn Edwards at 1-800-521-5432.

Co-Ed Softball tournament

WORTH is cosponsoring this year's inaugural co-ed softball tournament held at the Okmulgee City parks beginning at 7 p.m.

The 29th Annual Creek Nation Festival co-ed softball tournament will host 16 teams from various communities throughout Oklahoma, such as: Redhawks, Seminole; Renegades, Tahlequah; and Creek Warriors, Okmulgee/Tulsa. One team from Florida, The Seminoles, will battle 15 other teams vying for the championship.

The highlight of the tournament will be a home-run derby for both the men and women. The derby will consist of three rounds. Each participant must hit a certain number of home-runs in order to advance to the finals. Each winner will receive a WORTH bat.

For more information contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 756-8700 ext. 312.

Men and women's fast pitch tournament

The Men's and Women's Fast Pitch Tournament will begin Friday, June 20 and run through Sunday, June 22 at the Creek Nation Omniplex.

Hectorville Reds and Chatas are the defending men and women's champions and will receive number one seeds. Starters and Fus-cates were runner-ups in last year's tournament.

A total of 40 teams, 24 men and 16 women, will battle through a double elimination format. The deadline for the tournament is June 9.

For more information, contact Ruby Booker at 1-800-482-1979, Ext. 244.

Gospel Concert

A Gospel concert is scheduled to begin 7:30 p.m., in the mound auditorium, featuring "Geebon and Jenna Gouge & The Crosstown Choir," plus individual specials and guest singers.

Taylor Osborn of Wetumka will give a special guest performance.

Come enjoy an evening of gospel praise and worship with holy spirit filled singers and musicians.

For more information contact Geebon Gouge at (918) 756-8700 ext. 235.

Toughman Tournament

New to this year's entertainment and competition venue is a 16-man single elimination toughman tournament at 7:30 p.m. at the Creek Nation Omniplex.

A cash prize of $500 will be awarded in the Lightweight, 185 pounds and under and heavyweight 185 pounds and over. Eight entries in each category, winner takes all. Amateurs only, no professionals.

Equipment will be provided. A $25 OBC License Fee required, unless previously licensed.

For entry information contact: Edwin Marshall at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 375.

Intertribal Powwow and Stompdance

An Intertribal Powwow and Stompdance will be held June 20th and 21st at the Creek Nation Omniplex, co-hosted by Vietnam Era Veterans Intertribal Association. The Powwow will be held June 20th and 21st. The stompdance will be held June 20th at 11:30 p.m.

Powwow contests include first, second, and third place adult categories in: fancy shawl/jingle; traditional/grass; men's fancy; southern cloth; straight; and tiny tot prizes. All princesses and drums welcome.

Contestants must make Friday exhibition and Saturday grand entry. Full regalia required to receive prize money. Registration is June 20 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., prior to exhibition dance at no cost to compete. All times and details subject to change. For more information contact Jill Primeaux at 918-756-4224, ext. 25.

Entertainment

The entertainment at this year's festival will include a variety of genre from country, pop, rock and blues. Some of the artist performing will include Eddy Raven, Jana, Redbone, Over the Hill-Billys, Black Hawk Blues, Smilin' Vic Band, and Red Dawn Blues Band.

The Country Music show begins at 7 p.m. The Saturday blues, pop and rock show will begin at 2 p.m, June 21. All shows will be held at the Claude A. Cox Omniplex stage.

SATURDAY

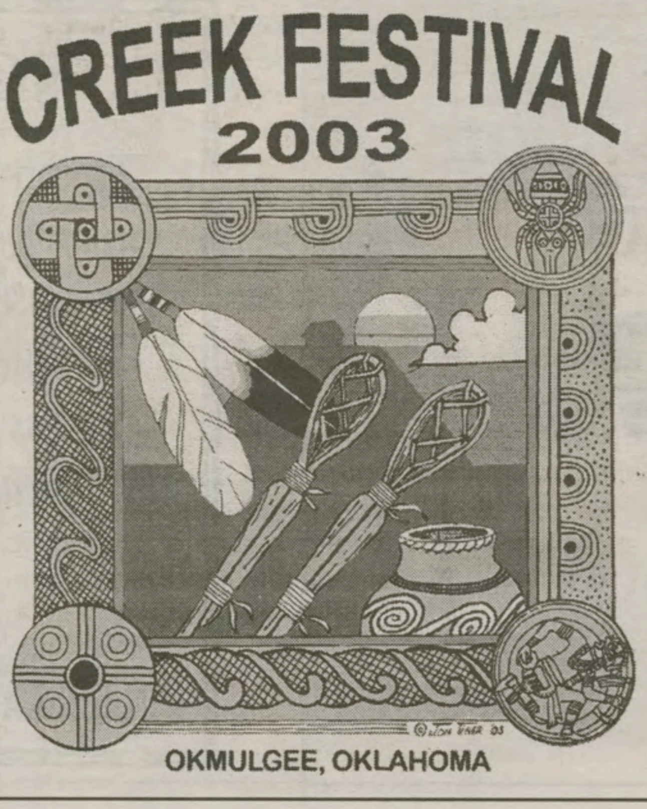
Highlights June 21

5K run/walk

The 5 K run/walk will be at the Muscogee Nation complex. Entry fee through June 20 is $15 or $20 on race day (includes t-shirt) or $10 without t-shirt.

Limited number of shirts available. Trophies will be awarded to the overall male & female runners; medals to top three finishers in each age group; ribbons to first three overall male & female walkers.

For more information contact Deborah Harjochee at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 301.

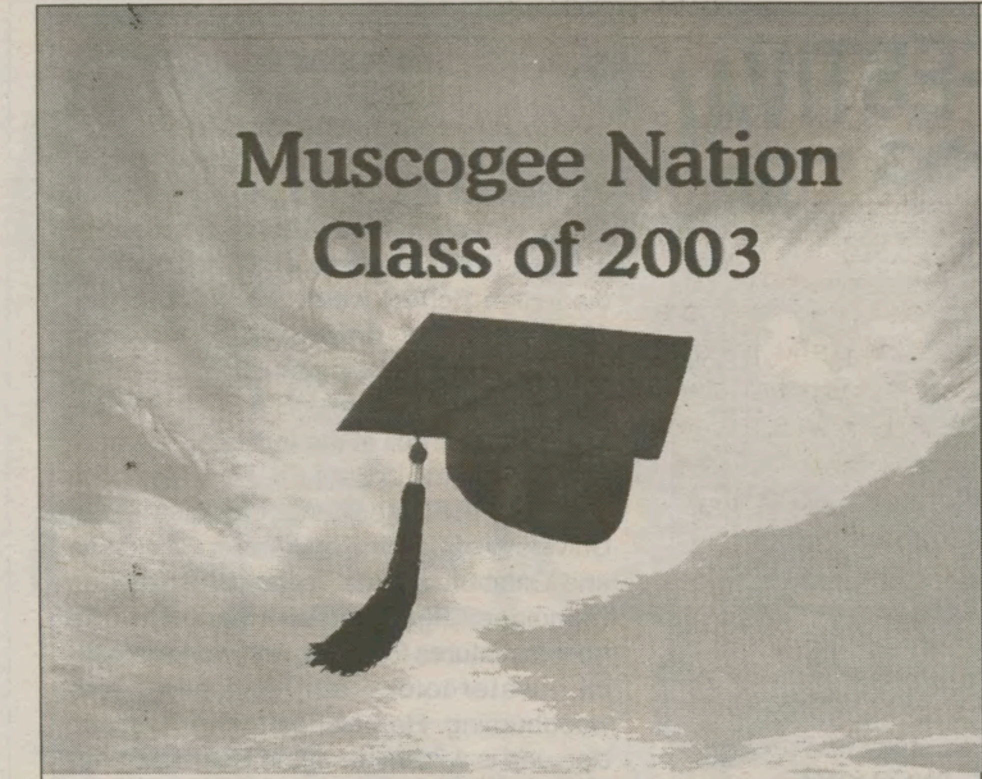


JON TIGER ARTWORKS
HC 63, BOX 212
EUFAULA, OK 74432
(918) 689-3654

Jon Tiger, full-blood Muscogee (Creek), was raised in rural McIntosh County. He attended Eufaula Public Schools and Sequoyah Indian High School where he graduated in 1973. Jon began drawing at the early age of five years old. Being mainly self-taught, his maternal grandfather, B.B Scott, encouraged him to enroll at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Sant Fe, New Mexico in 1973. He continued further studies at the University of Science and Arts in Chickasha and Oklahoma State Technical School on Okmulgee. Tiger's artwork varies in size from miniatures to mural, with works in pencil, watercolor, acrylic, oils, and woodburning. He belongs to the Raccoon clan and is a member of the Eufaula Canadian Tribal Town.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TUESDAY JUNE 17
• Little & Sr. Ms. Pageants • Mound Building • Janet Wise, Coordinator
THURSDAY JUNE 19
• Jr. & Miss Mvskoke Pageants • Mound Building • Janet Wise, Coordinator
FRIDAY JUNE 20
• Youth Olympics • Harmon Stadium • L.G. Tomah, Coordinator
• Fast-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Ruby Booker, Coordinator
• CO-ED Slow-Pitch Softball • Okmulgee City Parks • Lucas Taylor, Coordinator
• 3 on 3 Basketball • Omniplex • Eric Starr, Coordinator
• All-Indian Rodeo • Omniplex • Jeff Fife, Coordinator
• Country Western Concert • Omniplex • Edwin Marshall, Coordinator
• Gospel Concert • Mound Building •Thompson Gouge, Coordinator
• Tough Man Contest • Omniplex • Edwin Marshall, Coordinator
• Pow-Wow • Omniplex • Jill Primeaux, Coordinator
• Stompdance • Omniplex • Jill Primeaux, Coordinator
SATURDAY JUNE 21
• Golf Tournament • Cotton Creek • Will Freeman, Coordinator
• 5K Run • Mound Building • Deborah Harjochee, Coordinator
• Volleyball • Omniplex • Roy Yargee, Coordinator
• Elderly Activities • Human Development Building • Gloria Bezell, Coordinator
• Child Care Health Fair • Omniplex • Cindy Russell, Coordinator
• Horseshoe Tournament • Omniplex Steve Landsberry, Coordinator
• Home Front Heroes • Omniplex • Edwin Marshall, Coordinator
• Chief R. Perry Beaver Address • Omniplex
• Rock & Roll/Blues Concert • Omniplex • Edwin Marshall, Coordinator
• Fast-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Ruby Booker, Coordinator
• CO-ED Slow-Pitch Softball • Okmulgee City Parks • Lucas Taylor, Coordinator
• 3 on 3 Basketball • Omniplex • Eric Starr, Coordinator
• All-Indian Rodeo • Omniplex • Jeff Fife, Coordinator
• Pow-Wow • Omniplex • Jill Primeaux, Coordinator
• Oklahoma Championship Wrestling • Omniplex • Edwin Marshall
SUNDAY JUNE 22
• Fast-Pitch Softball • Omniplex • Ruby Booker, Coordinator
• All-Indian Rodeo • Omniplex • Jeff Fife, Coordinator
• Golf Tournament • Cotton Creek • Will Freeman, Coordinator



Muscogee Nation Class of 2003

CONGRATULATIONS

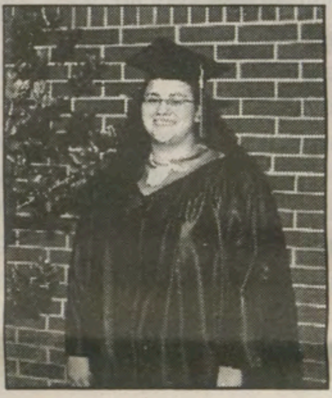
To our Creek Seniors
upon your graduation
we wish you much
happiness and
success in the
years ahead.

From the
HOUSING AUTHORITY of the CREEK NATION

Nathan E. Anderson

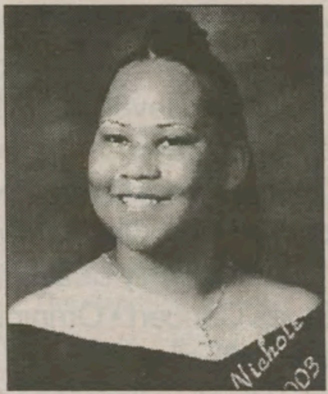
Haskell Indian Nations University
Degree: Bachelors of Science in Business Administration with emphasis in Computer Information Systems
Parents: Thelma Jean Noon of Wetumka and Robert O. Anderson of Chickasha
Grandparents: the late Lee Anna Noon Barnett and Nathan Noon Sr. of Wetumka
Plans: to return to the workforce in the IT field and work towards a Master's degree at a bible college

Alicia Alvarez



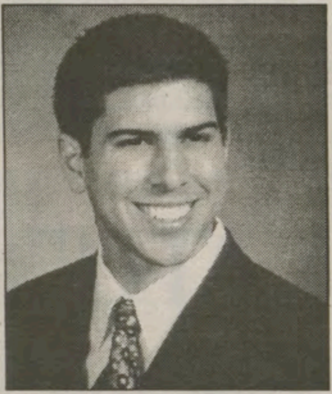
Morris High School
Parents: Benjamin and Tami Alvarez of Morris
Grandparents: Jack and Eileen Lawson of Morris
Great-grandparent: Sylvia Weatherford of Morris
Awards: 13-year Perfect Attendance Award; President's Award for Educational Excellence; and a 3.96 grade point average
Activities: National Honor Society; FFA; and attends Gospel Tabernacle Church
Plans: to attend Connors State College in Warner and pursue a degree in Veterinary Medicine

Nichole Leigh Bruner



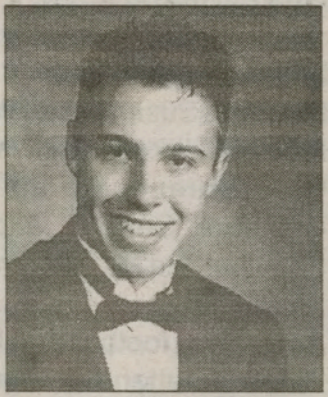
Jordan Vocational High School-Columbus, Georgia
Parents: Sonja and the late Terry Bruner of Columbus, Georgia
Grandparents: Mary of Oklahoma City and Willie Randall of Okmulgee and Ural and Maedean Carolina of Wewoka
Clan: Beaver
Tribal Town: Fishpond
Activities: Jordan Actors Against Violence and Abuse; Student Government Association; Jordan Acting Company; FBLA; Drama Club; International Thespians Society; Dead Poets Society; Youth Advisory Council; Senior Class Historian; Sophomore and Junior Council; JROTC; Foreign Language Club; and Jobs for Georgia Graduates
Plans: to attend Columbus State University

Osten Kit Colbert



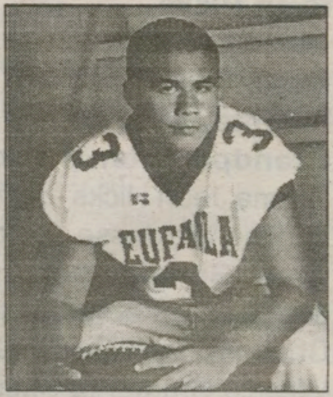
Brown University-Providence, Rhode Island
Degree: Bachelors degree in computer science
Parents: J.D. and Madeline Colbert of Oklahoma City and Keven Virgilio and Ed Hilliard of Norman
Grandparents: Rev. Willie and Mary Gooden of Okmulgee
Great-grandparent: Mary Ellen Perryman
Awards: Susan Colver Rosenberger award
Activities: Head Teachers Assistant and summer intern for IBM, IBM Global Services, Microsoft, and VMware
Plans: to begin work as a software engineer in the research and development division of VMware in Palo Alto, California

Robbie Bryan Crosier



Pauls Valley High School
Parents: Robin and Bob Phillips of Pauls Valley and the late Ronnie Crosier
Grandparents: Collene and James Jones of Dustin, Novella and Raymond Crosier of Okmulgee, and Caroline and Bob Jones of Arkansas
Awards: Who's Who Among High School Scholars; All American Scholar; National Honor Society; National Society of High School Scholars; Cyndy Hill Memorial Math Scholarship; Oklahoma Engineering Foundation, Inc. Scholarship; Award of Excellence Scholarship; and University of Oklahoma Distinguished Freshman Scholarship
Activities: Delegate for Boy's State and Academic State Championship in Tennis
Plans: to attend the University of Oklahoma–College of Engineering and major in mechanical engineering and minor in business

Joshua David Cummings



Eufaula High School
Parents: Washington and Linda Cummings of Eufaula
Grandparents: The late Bud and Mabel Moore of Stidham and the late David and Martha Cummings of Eufaula
Awards: National Merit Awards for Leadership and English
Activities: lettered in football, basketball, and baseball, all four years; All-District Football, senior year; FFA reporter, freshman year; Who's Who Among High School Students, four years; National Honor Society, four years; United States Achievement Academy; National Honor Roll, four years; and a member of Little Coweta Baptist Church
Plans: to attend East Central University and major in education with plans to be a coach

Jeryn Juanita Tilley Dobelbower

Jenks Beauty College
Parents: Richard and Fran Tilley of Bristow
Grandparents: the late Joseph and Effie Jean Tilley of Mason; the late Lewis and Juanita Ripley of Morrison; and the late Ralph Williams of Bristow
Plans: to work in Bristow at "Easy Does it Beauty Salon" and take more classes in the cosmetology field and open her own salon

Laura Mae Fixico

Choctaw High School
Parents: Stanley and Susan Fixico of Choctaw
Awards: Valedictorian; National Honor Society; Oklahoma State Honor Society; Who's Who Among American High School Students; National Honor Roll; and National Merit recognition
Activities: Spanish Club and Key Club President
Plans: to attend Bentley College in Waltham, Massachusetts and major in Finance with a minor in Psychology

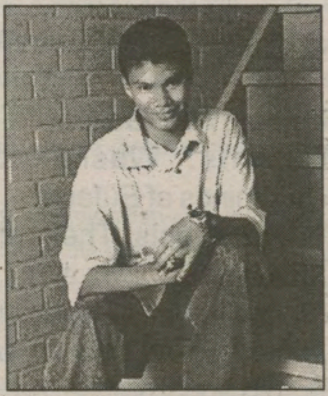
Mary L. Harjo

University of Oklahoma
Parents: the late Amos Barney and Lizzie Harjo
Grandparents: Lula Davis and Cheparney Harjo
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Tusekia Harjo
Plans: to work in some area to help Indian children and their families, Veterans Hospital, or the Department of Corrections

Eric Allen Hicks

Lawrence High School-Lawrence, Kansas
Parents: Curtis Hicks of Okmulgee and Caroline Hicks of Lawrence, Kansas
Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. Ron Eastman of Oneida, New York and Agnes and Hanson Hicks of Okemah
Clan: Eel
Activities: Traditional Straight Dancer; member of Native Dawn Dance Group; and Chair of Lawrence High Indian Club
Plans: to attend Haskell Indian Nations University

Ryan Hicks



Mason High School

Parents: Dewayne and Suzanne Hicks

Grandparents: Banson and the late Norma Jean Hicks and Betty of Okemah and the late Jesse Scott of Weleetka

Great Grandparents: the late Charley and Annie Marshall Tiger and the late Chebonie and Sarah Coker Hicks; and Wessie Gramer of Okemah and the late Ellis Scott and Susie Looney Scott

Clan: Wind

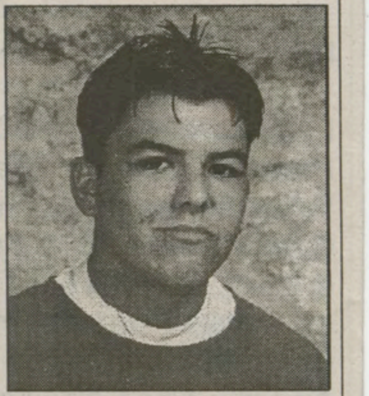
Tribal Town: Kialagee

Awards: JOM Scholarship

Activities: basketball, four years

Plans: to work and attend Seminole Jr. College

Otis E. Hinton



Berryhill High School

Parents: Susan Bible Hinton of Tulsa and Kenneth Hinton of Illinois

Grandparents: the late Sue Ann Bible of Glenpool; Gene E. and Diane Bible of Sapulpa; and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hinton of Illinois

Activities: football and baseball

Plans: to attend college and major in a Automotive Technology Program

Tonya Howell

Glenpool High School

Parents: Brenda and the late Jody Howell of Glenpool

Grandparents: Beatrice and the late Rev. Jackson Deere of Glenpool and the late Jess and Louise Howell of Tulsa

Awards: Academic Certificate of Honors, presented by Glenpool School and recognized by Oklahoma State Senator Nancy Riley

Activities: Principal's and Superintendent's Honor Roll

Chad Ryan Kaler

Wilson High School

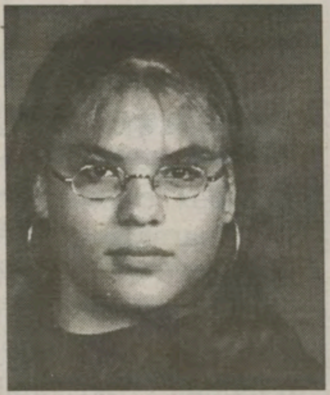
Parents: Donna Francis Kaler

Grandparents: Mitchell and Estella Francis of Dewar

Activities: baseball, four years-Crossroads Conference All Conference, two years, Tournament Team, two years, Champs, two years, Tourney Champs, two years, and District Champs; basketball, four years-Crossroads Conference All Conference, two years, All Tournament Team, two years, and All Star, Paden Tournament All Tourney Team, State Tournament Team Honorable Mention, State Tournament, Conference Champs, two years, District Champs, Regional Consolation Champs, and Area Consolation Champs; track, three years-Cross Country State Qualifying Team, two years; and Academic Team, four years-third place state

Plans: to attend Haskell Indian Nations University

Liza Jane Lindsey



Okmulgee High School

Parents: Susie Watson and the late Alex Lindsey

Grandparents: Amy Hill and the late Same Watson and the late Buddy Lindsey and the late Malissa Wakache

Clan: Wind

Tribal Town: Nuyaka

Plans: to attend Haskell Indian Nations University

Jennifer Ruth Meyer

University of Tulsa

Degree: Bachelor of Science in Exercise and Sports Science

Parents: Gordon and Sandy Meyer of Beggs

Grandparents: Dorothy Ellis Meyer

Plans: to continue her education and obtain a Master's as well as working in her field of study

Muscogee Graduates Class of 2003

Christina Marie Pruitt

Cleveland High School
Parents: Glen Jr. and Tricha Burr
Grandparents: Jerry and Cornel Glasco, Glen Burr Sr., Dianne Tittle, and Barbara Thompson
Great-Grandparents: Floyd Miller and Eddie Brizendine Sr.
Awards: National Honor Roll and Who's Who Among American High School Students
Activities: Upward Bound and Choir
Plans: to attend OSU and major in English then attend Law School

Jake Rakke Tilley

Bristow High School
Parents: Richard and Fran Tilley of Bristow
Grandparents: the late Joseph and Effie Jean Tilley of Okemah; the late Lewie and Juanita Ripley of Morrison; and Ralph Williams of Bristow
Awards: Principal's Honor Roll; Who's Who Among American High School Students; National Society Scholars; Bristow Alumni Assn., Chuck West, Jerry Greenwood, O.U. Health Sciences Academy, and Independence Community College Baseball Scholarships; and the U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award
Activities: baseball; football; FCA; Youth Group; weight lifting; sports editor of BHS Newspaper; Medical Professional Club; and Tulsa Metro American Legion Post 308-baseball

Ashley Nicole Walton

Coweta High School
Parents: Sherri Riley and Mike Walton
Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. Johnnie Greene and C. Pete Riley
Great Grandparents: the late Rev. John and Fannie Chalakee and Homer and Cassandra Walton
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Kialagee
Activities: NSU Educational Talent Search; FCCLA; Slow pitch softball; and class attendant
Plans: to attend TCC for basics then join their nursing program to become a registered nurse

Lisa Marie Williams

Connors State College
Degree: Associates in Arts
Parents: Vincent and Wanda Williams
Grandparents: Rosie and the late Jackson Bruner and Ann McGirt
Clan: Deer
Activities: softball
Plans: to continue on with her education

Tamara Mae Williams

Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee
Degree: Associates degree in Information Technology
Parents: Vincent and Wanda Williams
Grandparents: Rosie and the late Jackson Bruner and Ann McGirt
Clan: Deer
Plans: to go to summer school at Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee

Kara Renee Wolfe

Schulter High School
Parents: Rick and Minnie Wolfe of Okmulgee
Grandparents: the late Thomas and Mattie Long and Joyce of Henryetta and Roscoe Wolfe of Tulsa
Awards: Salutatorian
Activities: Honor Roll, four years; Gifted and Talented; Academic Bowl participant; Oklahoma Honor Society, three years; Lettered in basketball, four years; and 2003 prom queen
Plans: to attend OSU-Okmulgee

JOHNNY BUCKNER JR.

OKMULGEE—Funeral services for Rev. Johnny Daniel Buckner Jr. were held May 20 at Belvin Baptist Church with Revs. Randy Culbert, Mitchell Taylor, and Robert Washington officiating.

He was born April 5, 1941 at Claremore to Johnny and Lucille Berryhill Buckner.

Johnny married Darlene Buckner on November 28, 1975 at Henryetta. Buckner served in the Armed Forces and National Guard and loved to preach God's word.

Preceding him in death were his parents and one son, Johnny Daniel Buckner III.

Survivors include: his wife, Darlene of the home; two sons, Dion Washington of Oklahoma City and Marcy Washington of Okmulgee; daughter, Patricia Buckner of Morris; five grandchildren; seven sisters; five brothers; other relatives and a host of friends.

Pallbearers were: Mekko Bell; Keith and Bruce Barnett; Robert Washington Jr.; Paul and Tommy Harjo; and Jacy Rameriz.

NORA CAMPOS

HANNA — Funeral services for Nora Jane Harley Campos were held May 7 at Muddy Water Church with Pastor Raymond Simpson officiating.

She was born April 15, 1961 in Oklahoma City to Johnson and Helen Harley Smith. Nora went to school in Cromwell, but mostly lived in Oklahoma City.

Campos loved to crochet, do beadwork, cook, and dance.

Preceding her in death was her stepfather.

Survivors include: two sons, Jason Hill of Bristow and Brian Harley; one daughter, Janiella Sanchez; two brothers, Gary and Joseph Harley, all of Oklahoma City; four sisters, Annette Hicks of Choctaw, Stella Lovings of Del City, Wynett and Nettie Tiger; mother, Helen Harley, all of Oklahoma City; and three uncles.

Interment was at Muddy Water Church Cemetery.

EUGENE DUNSON

HANNA—Funeral services for Eugene Dunson were held April 16 at Thlopthlocco Church with Rev. Gene Harjo and Rev. July Tecumseh officiating.

He was born July 27, 1922 in Okemah to Thomas H. and Susan Walker Dunson.

Dunson graduated from Wetumka High School and he loved sports and was a rancher by trade. He lived in Henryetta from 1948-1980 raising his children and ranching. Eugene was married to Juanita Dunson. He worked cattle, loved to talk about the Bible and loved Bob Wills music. He served in the United States Navy during World War II.

Preceding him in death were his parents; three brothers; and three sisters.

Survivors include: three sons, David of Shawnee, Marty and Daryl, both of Phoenix, Arizona; three daughters, Wanda Chapo of Shawnee, Susan Bear of Oklahoma City, and Linda Irene of Santa Fe, New Mexico; two foster sons, Cornelius Pete Riley of Sand Springs and Richard Hicks of Sapulpa; two sisters, Virginia Webb of Okemah and Kathryn Scott of Martinez, California; sixteen grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Pete Riley; Richard Hicks; Marvin Thurman; Thomas Chap; John Bear; Brad Lowe; and Bill Smith.

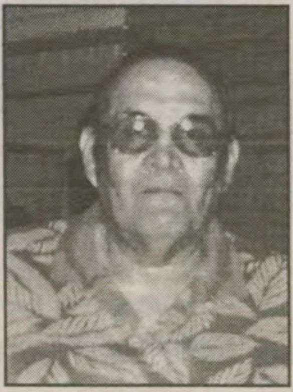
Interment was at Thlopthlocco Church Cemetery.

JESSE SCOTT

OKEMAH—Funeral services for Jesse Randolph Scott were held April 14 at Springfield Methodist Church with Pastor Malcolm Tiger and Pastor Kelly Tiger Sr. officiating.

He was born April 30, 1942 in Okemah to Rev. Ellis and Susie Looney Scott.

He was baptized as an infant at Springfield by Rev. John Lowe and was a lifelong member. At the time of his passing, he served as the Church's lay leader and chairman since 1996.


Scott

Jesse's favorite pastime was singing gospel songs. He sang bass with the Berryhill Quartet and Country Gospel Aires, which later became the Travelors, for thirty years. Mr. Scott took great pride in his church, the members and their endeavors to fulfill their duties.

Preceding him in death were his parents and brother, John Scott.

Survivors include: wife, Sally; three sons, Jess Jr., Travis of Okemah, and Stacey of the home; two daughters, Suzanne Hicks of Mason and Sandra Pringle of Glenpool; sister, Francis Girty of Lawrence, Kansas; ten grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

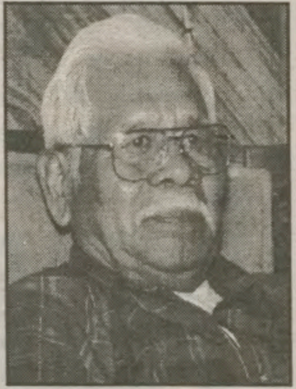
Pallbearers include: Jim Humble; Bryan McGertt; Clint Yarholar; Norman Asbury; Alexander Alvarez; and Johnny Micco. Honorary pallbearers were: Albert Berryhill; Sandy Barnett; Louis McGertt; and Kelly Tiger Jr.

Interment was at the Scott-Yarholar Family Cemetery.

MONROE WIND

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Monroe "Monk" Wind were held at High Springs Baptist Church with Rev. Gene Harjo and Rev. Daniel Wind officiating.

He was born February 16, 1921 in Okemah to David Wind Jr. and Winey Barnett.


Wind

Monroe attended grade school at Lone Star and later transferred to Euchee Boarding School where he excelled in football. He finished his schooling and football involvement in Okemah.

As a young man he entered the United States Army and honorably served his country during World War II. He was PFC in Squadron E 247 AAF BU and received an ETO Ribbon with five battle stars, Good Conduct Medal, Victory Medal, and Distinguished Unit Badge-bronze arrowhead. He was honorably discharged December 5, 1945. Following his discharge, he married Josephine Harjo in Lawrence, Kansas. They made their first home in Okemah, then moved on to Colorado and New Mexico, later returning to Oklahoma. He had worked in the oil fields as a driller and truck driver. He had also done high tower painting. Monroe and Josephine have made Wetumka their home since 1978.

Wind also enjoyed hunting, fishing, working in his garden and yard and visiting with family and friends. He was Creek/Euchee of the Alabama Tribal Town, Bear Clan, and was an active member of the High Springs Baptist Church.

Survivors include: his wife; son, Thomas Gene of Denver, Colorado; three daughters, Virginia Rogers, Thomasene Wind, and Charlene Werito, all of Oklahoma City; four grandsons; four granddaughters; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Pallbearers include: Thomas and Micco Wind; Clifford and Mitchell Werito; Chebon and Hokshena Marks. Honorary pallbearer was Harold Rogers.

Interment was at the Wind Cemetery.

JUDY WOLF

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Judy Wolf were held May 2 at Prairie Springs Baptist Church with Bro. Bill Hobia and Rev. Mike Harjo officiating.

She was born September 3, 1910 in Okemah to Chagee and Needa Harjogee Harjo.

Wolf was a homemaker and raised her children and others, along with her grandchildren. Gardening, cooking, and church were her first priority. She was a member of Prairie Springs Baptist Church and lived in Okemah area most of her life.

Preceding her in death were: two sons; three daughters; four sisters; nieces; nephews; and one grandson.

Survivors include: twelve grandchildren; twenty great-grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were her grandchildren.

Interment was at the Snake Creek Cemetery in Seminole County.

RAMON WOLF

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Ramon Wolf were held April 30 at Hudson-Phillips Funeral Home Chapel with Revs. Houston and Malcolm Tiger officiating.

He was born February 2, 1981 in Ada to Robert Wolf Jr. and Ramona Harjo.

Wolf worked for the Seminole Nation as a firefighter since 1998. He enjoyed fishing, working on cars, and roofing.

Preceding him in death were his grandparents, Elizabeth Johnson and Robert Wolf Sr.

Survivors include: his mother of Holdenville; father of Oklahoma City; children, Bridget, Ramon, Isaac, Makayla, and Tristen Wolf, all of Seminole; four sisters, Roberta of Ada, Lucy Tiger of Oklahoma City, Michelle of Seminole, and Laverne Yahola of Okemah; and three brothers, Robby of Seminole, Kaylon of Wewoka, and Robert Harjo of Stilwell.

Pallbearers were: Kaylon and Robby Wolf; Mack Peters; Billy Van; Thomas Beaver; and Anthony McGirt. Honorary pallbearers were Fred Footracer and Dusty Caudill.

Gratitude

We wish to thank the members of the Sand Creek Baptist Church for the prayers, kindness, and compassion they gave us during the time of our grief. We also wish to thank them for the effort and hard work put forth by the congregation to provide services for Betsy as she wished. We were truly blessed by their participation. We also thank all who paid their respects to Betsy in any form, be it by flowers, visits, or attendance at any of the services.

Betsy Proctor Family

Summer Jump Rope Program *"Jump to Dump Diabetes"*

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2003 Creek Nation Festival *Picture Review*

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Veterans' Moving Wall Ceremony *Picture Review*

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Muscogee Nation News

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Hall of Fame Coaches reflect on successful careers

by Gerald Wofford

Between the five of them, their winning records have been impressive and their careers have spanned six decades. They've coached nationally known high school athletes from Lee Roy Selmon to Troy Aikman and others locally well known. They gave each athlete the time and dedication needed and deserved, regardless of talent or popularity. The long hours, endless bus rides, motivational words and classroom duties as well, gave these special men the unique title of, Coach.

Recently, the Muscogee Nation News sat down with four Creek coaches who have been inducted into the Oklahoma Coaches Association Hall of Fame: Perry Beaver; Ron McHenry; Perry Anderson; and Wiley Ryal. Kenneth Moore, who passed away in May of 1997, was also inducted into the Hall in 1979.

"Its all I ever wanted to do," said Perry Beaver, current Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation when asked why he became a coach. Beaver coached high school football for Jenks for 25 years winning two state championships.

Pictured above, from left to right, are: Perry Anderson; Principal Chief Perry Beaver, Wiley Ryal; and Ron McHenry. *photo by Lucas Taylor*

McHenry, who coaches football at Coweta, said his life's road decision to coach was totally different. "I didn't plan on being a coach," said McHenry. "I wanted to be a teacher, but the place where I was living at the time needed a coach at the local boy's club. No one would take the job and help the kids out, so I did, and that's what got me started."

During the candid conversation, the coaches talked about how the modern high school athlete of today differs from the athlete of the past.

"I think players are more dedicated today," said Ryal. "Perhaps of the year round emphasis on training. We've gone from smaller to bigger. It used to be

please see **COACHES**..., page 7

Chief announces plans for a multimillion dollar project

TULSA— With the cooperation of the Legislative Branch of the Muscogee Creek Nation , Chief Perry Beaver, announced plans for building up the east bank of the Arkansas River in Tulsa.

The developmental plans begin with a multimillion dollar hotel and entertainment complex, which includes the largest gaming center in the state. This project is the first in a series of development projects designed to help boost the Tulsa area economy and create new jobs for both tribal and non-tribal citizens.

"What we want to do here is worthwhile to more than just the Creek Nation," stated Chief Beaver. " What we want to do here is for Tulsa and the state of Oklahoma."

This multi-phase project is centered on and around the site of the current Tulsa Creek Nation Casino. The first phase consists of the construction of a state-of-the-art gaming center with numerous gaming devices, a spacious hotel and meeting space, and an expansive parking facility. This project will provide a gracious boost to the economy by requiring the purchasing of building supplies and the creation of jobs.

Partnered with the Tribe is Nevada Gold & Casinos, Inc. Under the terms of the contract, Nevada Gold will assist the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with the project financing and provide management services to the entertainment and gaming center.

The Design-Builder for the project is SGS, L.L.C. SGS is a Native American firm that has designed and constructed projects for many different Native American tribes over the past few years,

please see **PLANS**..., page 7

Chief Perry Beaver and Edwin Marshall reveal an architectural drawing of the proposed multimillion dollar developmental project at a press conference in Tulsa. *photo by Gerald Wofford*

National Council honors original allottees

by Gerald Wofford

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation paid special homage to the Original Allottees of the tribe, as well as full-blood tribal members who are eighty years and older.

The honored guests came from as far away as California and Alabama just to be in Okmulgee on this special day.

Phillip Coon, a decorated World War II veteran, said, "I thought I would never live to see this day."

The allottees were honored with a commemorative blanket of the Tribal Seal, as well as a Medallion during the General Session of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council meeting. The full-bloods were honored with a medallion and certificate as well.

Pictured above, from left to right, are the three original alottees: Martha Berryhill, 103 years; California Fixico, 101 years old; and Lucy Condren, 101 years old. *photo by Lucas Taylor*

Donna Martin, Organizational Specialist with the tribe, saw the need for this type of ceremony to occur.

"Working in Community Development," she said, "we see things. I got to looking at them one day and realized we really don't have that many of them left."

Martin also noticed a statistical research document, presented by Second Chief A.D. Ellis, in a past issue of the Muscogee Nation News on the number of allottees and full bloods still living.

please see **ALLOTTEES**..., page 7

Committee vice-chair expresses appreciation

Editor:

On behalf of the Festival Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for all of the help we received in making this year's Festival one of the most successful. With the cooperation of the weather, we were able to accommodate an estimated 30,000 people.

Special recognition should be given to the following: Roy Yargee and staff, Leanna Tomah, Jill Primeaux, Alicia Stroble, Melissa Ambler, and Lucas Taylor, all of which were first time coordinators in their respected events.

But of course, you cannot forget the people who came "to the cause." Woody Fields and the Lighthorse Explorer group parking cars, Tribal Roads staff, Creek Nation Facilities and maintenance staff. There are numerous others not mentioned, our gratitude to you as well.

For the first time in 12 years, to my knowledge, we had a couple of Council Member's volunteer! Mrs. Lola Fields and Phyllis Warrington went above and beyond the call of duty by parking cars. Your support was very much acknowledged and appreciated.

In closing, the Festival Committee will continue to strive for improvements because this event is now designed to be a festive opportunity for both Tribal and non-Tribal citizens alike.

Curtis Hicks, Okmulgee

Chief pleased with festival turnout

Editor:

As I sat and reflected on the many successful events of the 29th Annual Creek Nation Festival which occurred this past weekend, I realized the significance and its relation to the state of the Muscogee Nation. There were more events than have ever been presented, more participation in each event, more attendance by spectators, and most importantly, more volunteers that made the festival successful. By conservative estimates, there may have been 35,000 or more attending the festival throughout the entire weekend.

In correlation, the Muscogee Nation currently has the most it has ever had to offer its citizens in the way of housing, education, community and human services and economic opportunities. We are serving more as our population has grown to over 54,000 citizens. Consequently, we employ more staff to provide these services. In essence, the success and growth of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was reflected by our festival. I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to the Festival Committee: Jeff Fife, Chairman; Curtis Hicks; Kathy Guthrie; Thomasine Fife; Edwin Marshall; and Diane Beasley, for their tireless efforts in coordinating this event. In addition, I would like to thank the many nameless employee volunteers who gave of themselves to assure that the Nation would be showcased in such a positive light. I am truly proud to be the Principal Chief of the greatest Tribal Nation in the Country, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. *Mvto.*

Chief R. Perry Beaver, Jenks

Creek Nation employee seeks tribal member

Editor:

I am the Manager for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation office in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Because our office involves a large amount of genealogical research, we are routinely contacted about finding family members. Usually the family members we research are deceased, but recently we received a request about a family member search on someone that may still be alive.

A gentlemen from Chicago, Robert E. Gray, is looking for his wife Leah's sister. She was working for the Miccousokee Tribe of Florida in 1976. This was the last known information on Peggy. The article stated that she received her degree from UCLA. We are hoping that one of your readers may have information on her. If anyone has information on her, they can contact our office at 918-756-8700, ext. 604. Thank you so much.

Joyce Bear, Okmulgee

Citizen thanks relatives attending reunion

Editor:

Relatives of Melissa Kannard Harjo and James Barnett, and Paul and Amanda (Barnett) Jimboy gathered at Creek Chapel Methodist Church, southeast of Okemah, to share childhood stories, to catch up on current events of our lives, compete in games, win prizes, laugh at ourselves and each other, and of course – to share lots of wonderful food! We had a glorious day of getting reacquainted with family members and also meeting family members we had not yet met.

The oldest family member present was Jennie Fixico of Okemah; traveling the farthest were Judy, Dale and Christina St. Arnold from Scotsdale, Arizona; and the youngest family member present was Aleya Birdcreek of Okemah. We estimated that over 130 people attended the reunion. For those that missed the reunion, we hope to see you at the next one.

Warmest thank you to Edna Blair for keeping us all entertained. Many thanks to Bill Blair, Dale St. Arnold, Jimmie LeFlore, Michael Bowers, and Morris Harjo for cooking the grilled foods. An extra thank you to those that helped finance the reunion. An awesome thank you to Edna and Bill Blair and J.D. Bowers for the great fireworks to end a glorious day! A special thank you to members of Creek Chapel Church for giving us the opportunity to use their church grounds for our reunion

Marie Faubion, Checotah

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

The Fourth of July was a very busy weekend throughout our nation. Many church gatherings, ceremonial grounds are active, and the hot weather is quickly approaching. Friday morning was ribbon dance time at the Hickory Ground near Henryetta. I visited people who were from Oklahoma City and as far away as Atlanta, Georgia. Friday night, Snake Creek Baptist Church had a fireworks program and birthday party for **Anderson Hale**. Anderson serves as a Creek Nation Housing Commissioner.

For the second time I attended the annual church reunion at Tuskegee Indian Church near Eufaula. This historic Indian baptist church was very important in the founding of the Muscogee Creek Nation and its people around Eufaula.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved who worked and provided support for the Vietnam Veterans Moving Wall. The Muscogee Nation was selected for this occasion by the VFW Post 1189 and others because the Claude Cox Omniplex provided the space and availability to easy access. Thanks to all Veterans for their sacrifices to make this Nation a better place to live.

The 29th Annual Creek Nation Festival in June was a huge success and probably had the largest crowd ever. This success, as always, is made possible by our employees who do all the planning and all the work. Not only during the festival, but everyday operations throughout our Nation. Without good employees who serve our people, we could not survive.

Congratulations to all our young students who participated in the Junior Olympics. You are all winners. I can assure the Creek citizens that in the future years are young Creek men and women will continue to move this Nation forward. They are better educated and better informed than some people realize, but we must always support and guide them to greater goals.

By the time our next newspaper arrives, you will know all the candidates who are running for office. Chief Beaver cannot run again because of term limits so there will be a new Chief. All council seats are open also in this election. Everyone needs to register to vote and make sure your address is correct. Due to the recent 911 phone systems change, most rural addresses are now different. Filing period is July 21, 22, and 23. The primary election will be September 20th.

Until next month, check on your very young and very old to make sure they are prepared for very hot weather. *Mvto.*

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Lucas Taylor, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, photography
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at: a March 18 special session.

March 18 special session

Absent was **Judy Aaron**, Creek District; **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee District; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee District; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the council:

Council convened in Committee of the whole

- approved as amended (15-0-0) TR 03-027, authorizing the chairman of the Muscogee Nation Business enterprise board to execute a letter of intent between the Muscogee Nation business enterprise and complete technology concepts, L.L.C.

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee District; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee District; **Sandra Peters**, Okmuglee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa District; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner District; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner District

March 22 regular session

Absent was **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee District; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the council:

representative **Golden** was excused;

- approved as amended (20-0-0) NCA 03-047, authorizing a special appropriation to the Weleetka public schools to assist with fund-raising to pay for state rings for the Native American football players who contributed to the winning of the state championship;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek District; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek District; **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee District; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee District; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa District; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District; **Richard Berryhill,** Wagoner District; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner District;

- approved (20-0-0) TR 03-012, supporting the Weleetka Outlaws football team who achieved their first state class B championship title in an undefeated season;
- approved (20-0-0) TR 03-021, authorizing the division of health administration vocational rehabilitation program to prepare and submit a proposal to the U.S. Department of Education for vocational rehabilitation services and committing matching funds;
- approved (20-0-0) TR 03-022, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an agreement for the removal of underground storage tanks located in the city of Wetumka, Oklahoma;
- approved (20-0-0) TR 03-025, approving the selection of a contractor and authorizing the housing authority to execute the contract for rehabilitation repair work;

representative **Lewis** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved (19-0-0) TR 03-026, confirming the nomination of **Howard Condren** to serve on the Creek Nation Health systems board;
- approved (17-3-0) NCA 03-001, authorizing a special appropriation to the division of health administration, elderly nutrition program, FY 2003 budget for the continuation of elderly meal delivery services to Indian elders in the Eufaula area;

voting no were: **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; and **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee;

- approved (20-0-0) NCA 03-039, authorizing the expenditure of general board of global minister of the United Methodist church grant;

due to a tie vote Speaker votes yes

- approved (11-10-0) NCA 03-041, appropriating funds to financially assist federal and state election candidates who will serve to assist and protect tribal governments and their sovereignty;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (18-2-0) NCA 03-052, amending NCA 92-29, § 404C, NCA 99-20, § 2-100, and NCA 01-135, § 201, relating to procedures for the appointment of members to the housing board of commissioners, the election board and the citizenship board;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek and **Cleghorn,** Tulsa;

representatives **Barnett** and **Cleghorn** were out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

- approved (12-6-0) NCA 03-053, amending NCA 99-83 § 102 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation adding professional engineers to the list of professionals who may be compensated in an amount exceeding the compensation of the Principal Chief and repealing section 103 of NCA 96-23) as amended by NCA 02-096, to include the general manager of the Muscogee Nation business enterprise and the general manager of the tribal trade and commerce authority;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee;

representatives **Barnett** and **Cleghorn** were out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

- approved (18-0-0) NCA 03-056, appropriating funds to the senior methodist organization of the northeast district for the annual camp meeting of the United Methodist church;

representative **Almerigi** was excused;

- approved (11-6-0) NCA 03-060, authorizing revising the FY 2000 Indian Housing plan as approved by NCA 00-96 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the FY 2000 Indian Housing plan);

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

representative **Pickering** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved (13-5-0) NCA 03-061, revising the FY 2001 Indian Housing plan as approved by NCA 01-90 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the FY 2001 Indian Housing plan);

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

representatives **Aaron**, **Pickering**, and **Lewis** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved (16-0-0) NCA 03-063, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Hughes county, Oklahoma to be used for economic development purposes;

representative **Pickering** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

- approved as amended (18-0-0) NCA 03-068, authorizing a special appropriation to Twin Hills Indian community for a paved parking lot

representative **Pickering** and **Gillespie** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved (16-0-1) NCA 03-069, authorizing a special appropriation to the Bacone college for their multi-cultural festival;

abstain were **Peters**, Okmulgee;

representative **Gillespie** was excused;

- approved (18-0-0) NCA 03-073, appropriating a cops tribal resource grant match and authorizing the expenditure of the cops tribal resources grant program equipment award for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation lighthorse police department;

representative **McIntosh** was excused;

- approved (15-2-0) NCA 03-074, appropriating and authorizing expenditure of funds for the demolition of the old housing authority offices and construction of a new office structure;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee and **Jackson**, Okfuskee;

- approved (17-0-0) authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the constitution amendment committees

May 3 quarterly session

Absent was **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District; and **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District.

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

The following veto message was acted upon:

representative **Jackson** arrived;

- voted (8-16-0) to override the veto message on NCA 03-044, repealing NCA 00-136 and reestablishing the special academic/extra curricular program under the human development committee of the national council;

voting no were: **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Gouge**, McIntosh; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa;

In order of business the council:

- approved (22-1-0) TR 03-017, approving a lighthorse regulation related to training requirements for cross commissioned lighthorse officers;

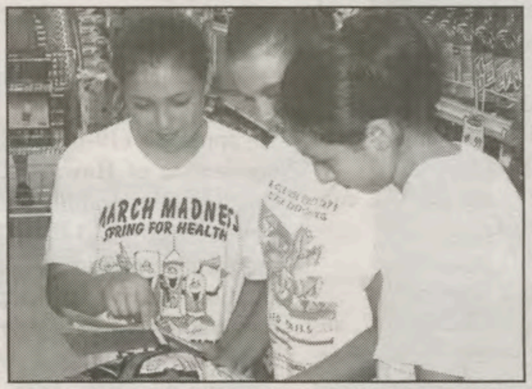
voting no were **Golden**, Okfuskee;

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 9

Diabetes program completes summer jump rope program

OKEMAH— The fifth through seventh grade students at Okemah middle school participated in a jump rope program, *Jump to Dump Diabetes*, throughout the spring of this past school year. There were 40-45 students participating during the spring activity. Several students expressed interest in continuing this program throughout the summer. The students met two days per week for 1 1/2 hours each day throughout June and the first part of July.

The program had approximately 30 students who were also given 30 minutes of education on nutrition and diabetes prevention each day. This included a trip to the local Homeland to learn how to read food labels and how to help their families make healthier food choices.



Pictured above, from left to right, are Kylee Robison, Mellisa Williams, and Danielle Marques at Homeland Grocery Store making healthy food choices by learning how to read food labels.

photo submitted

Participants were encouraged to exercise at home during the other days of the week by the *Fitness Frenzy* Program.

Every time a student would exercise for 30 minutes or more they would earn chances at winning incentive prizes provided by the diabetes program. The summer program ended with a field trip.

According to Scott Robison, Diabetes Program exercise manager and facilitator of the jump rope club, "These students have really got hooked on jumping rope and many of there are now doing some amazing tricks with a jump rope. In the fall, we would like to take some of these students around to other schools and show how much fun these students are having exercising and preventing diabetes."

The program is a pilot program that is planned for future implementation in other programs throughout schools in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundary area.

Youth cooking school to be held

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H will be holding a youth cooking school on July 28 at the Okmulgee County Fairgrounds from 9 a.m to 2 p.m.

Learning opportunities include: reading a recipe; using proper measuring techniques; cooking; and tasting buffet.

Participants must pre-register by calling Jamie Littlefield at (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 610.

Language and culutral class to be offered this fall

OKMULGEE – Oklahoma State University will offer an introductory Mvskoke Creek language and culture class scheduled this fall to coincide with Stillwater and Tulsa's fall academic calendar. The class will meet on Monday and Wednesday from 7:15 PM to 10 PM. beginning Aug. 18 thru Dec. 5.

Using distance learning technology, the class convenes simultaneously on the Okmulgee, Stillwater and Tulsa campuses. Students can enroll at any participating campus.

Instructors are Ted Isham, curator of the Creek Council House Museum in Okmulgee, and 86 year old Seminole-Creek elder and Mvskoke Teacher Linda Alexander from Norman.

Alexander

Alexander, along with her daughter Bertha Tilkens and linguistics specialist Dr. Pam Innes, have developed new curriculum to be used for the first time this fall. Supplementing the curriculum are two Mvskoke/English dictionaries, one compiled by missionaries around 1890 and several resource and reference manuals.

Isham, whose curator title translates "caretaker of the old ones' ways", studied linguistics and Creek language under Alexander at the University of Oklahoma. There he learned how to incorporate scientific methods into teaching the language to others. His goal is to standardize methods and materials to stabilize the Creek language preservation and revitalization effort.

In the class, students will learn Creek alphabet sounds, vocabulary, grammar, simple sentences, conversational phrases and many aspects of Creek culture.

"To study a language, you can't help but study the culture surrounding it," explains Isham. "The two are intertwined and one cannot be learned without the other."

Oklahoma offers abundant opportunities for students to immerse themselves in Creek culture. One such activity is the Creek Council Oak Ceremony in Tulsa, an annual rededication of the first meeting place of the Mvskoke Nation in Indian Territory. The Council Oak, located between Cheyenne and Boulder Avenues on 18th St., is said to be the site where Tulsa began. A traditional stompdance and stickball game follow the ceremony.

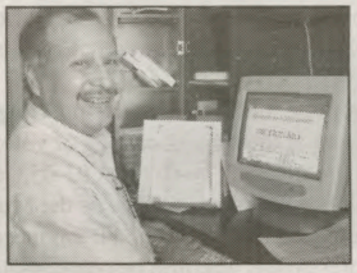
The Mvskoke language is still active and frequently spoken in eastern Oklahoma, but Isham estimates only 3,000 to 6,000 speakers of the Creek language remain. Most of these are elders. The language is not being taught to children and grandchildren.

"We have complacency among the people of the Creek Nation," says Isham. "We want to believe there will always be an elder around to teach us. I wish I had listened and learned more from my grandparents when they were alive. Now it's too late."

An aggressive, grassroots movements to preserve the language and pass it on to the younger generation began in 1994. George Bunny, an Oklahoma City Creek teacher, established the Mvskoke Language Institute, which offered community language classes.

Dr. Pete Coser, OSU's Native American Student Coordinator, was instrumental in delivering Oklahoma's first Native American language course, via distance learning technology in 1998.

Isham currently is videotaping as many elders as possible in an attempt to preserve and revitalize what is left of the language. He also plans to videotape the entire Creek language and culture curriculum and produce an on-line version of the course.



Isham

To help instill the importance of continuity, the final project in this introductory language and culture class includes the production of Creek children's books. The books will be displayed and read aloud during the last class while students enjoy a traditional Creek dinner.

Creek Nation Employment and Training Manager, Dana Minnick, says Creek citizens may be eligible to receive tuition funding for the course through the Creek Nation Tribal Grant. Potential students can apply for assistance through the Creek Nation Employment and Training Office. Processing time is two weeks.

The five-credit hour introductory course, plus the intermediate course planned for the spring semester, meet the 10-hour "foreign" language requirement for most programs of study, according to Karen Mott, OSU transfer credit evaluation coordinator.

For enrollment information, contact: OSU-Okmulgee's admissions office at 1801 E. 4th St., Okmulgee, OK 74447; 1-800-722-4471 ext. 4680; or (918) 293-4680. Send e-mail to admissions@osu-okmulgee.edu. View the college's web site at www.osu-okmulgee.edu.

Wellness camp for youth offered this summer

CHOUTEAU — The Community Diabetes Prevention and Tobacco Prevention Programs for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are getting together to offer a summer youth camp, *Camp Cvfeknetv*, that stresses healthy lifestyles for Indian youth.

This camp will be for all youth 12 to 18 years of age and living in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundary area. The camp will be held at Camp Christian on Aug. 7 through 10.

If you would like more information or a registration packet, please contact Carla Brown, Tobacco Prevention Program, at 1-800-782-8291, ext. 277.

Head start program is accepting applications

CHECOTAH — The Muscogee (Creek Nation) Head Start Center is accepting applications for enrollment. Full day service for children ages three to five years old will be offered.

Services within the program include: social and health services; dental checks; parent involvement; speech & hearing tests; meals & snacks; and individualized teaching services for children with special needs.

For more information call: (918) 473-0605 or visit the head start center at 302 B. Street.

Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory is accepting applications

EUFAULA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Eufaula Dormitory is now accepting applications for enrollment for the 2003-2004 school term. The school is a BIA funded peripheral dormitory for boys and girls, first thru 12th grade.

The program offers a structured environment with supplementary services such as tutoring, behavioral and academic counseling, library and computer/learning resource center.

The program also offers well-rounded activities such as movies, skating, field trips, pow wows, fishing, camping trips, Six Flags Over Texas and Frontier City.

Enrollment is limited. For more information, contact the Eufaula Dormitory at: Attn: Student records, 716 Swadley Drive, Eufaula, OK 74432 or call 1-800-896-3181.

Tulsa Indian Actors' Workshop

TULSA — The Tulsa Indian Actors' Workshop will be hosting a free theater workshop, utilizing puppets and tradi-

please see **WORKSHOP**..., page 7

Creek girls lead softball team to a successful season

OKEMAH — The Okemah Lady Panthers Softball Team, led by six Muscogee (Creek) girls, finished the season ranked seventh in Class 4A and qualified for the state tournament for the first time in 15 years.

The Okemah Lady Panthers defeated Stroud and Dale in the district and regional tournament finals to qualify for the state tournament at Reeve's Park in Norman. Latta used an eight-run second inning to outlast Okemah, 14-9 in the opening round of state tournament play.

"It felt very rewarding to make it to state and make school history," said Mallory Bible. "This definitely gives us motivation for next year."

The Lady Panthers finished the season with a 32-10 record.

Pictured above, from left to right, are: Johnni Baker, first base; Zipporah Yahola, outfield; Katie Coon, short stop; Kelli Tiger, outfield; Amber Sands, pitcher, and Mallory Bible, outfield.

Education

Muscogee girl participates in track meets

MANNFORD — Audrea Caywood did alot of running this past track season for the Mannford Middle School Track Team.

She won: four gold and one silver medals for the 800 meter run; three gold and two silver medals for the 1600 meter run; and one gold, one silver and three bronze medals for the 3200 relay.

She graduated from eighth grade from Mannford, where she was on both the superintendents and prinicpal's honor roll.

She is the daughter of Andrew and Melissa Caywood.

Maternal grandparents are Neomi Lindsey of Kusa and Danny Lindsey of Dewar. Paternal grandparents are Samuel and Susan Caywood from Mannford.

Caywood

Caywood belongs to the Bird Clan and Hickory Ground Tribal Town.

Sapulpa boy receives honors

SAPULPA — Nolan Billiot, a fourth grader at Lonestar Elementary School, received several awards at the end of the 2003 academic year.

Nolan made the honor roll and received an award of honor in reading, mathmatics achievement certificate, and athletic award for basketball.

He is the son of Kenneth Billiot of Coweta and Kogee Bigpond of Sapulpa. Grandparents are Maureen and Ethan Bigpond of Okmulgee.

Billiot

Falske graduates high school

GRANTS PASS, OR — Allison Nicole Falske graduated from Grants Pass High School on June 6.

She was a high school cheerleader for three years and a member of Rogue Valley All-Starz, a competition stunt cheerleading team. Falske also excelled in soccer, gymnastics and snow skiing.

Allison's academic interest is in the field of psychology, in which she will pursue a degree.

She will be attending Oregan State University in Corvalli this fall. She is a recipient of an OSU foundation scholarship.

Falske

Births

Tarin Andrew Anderson

SHAWNEE — Tarin Andrew Anderson was born on April 2 at Unity Hospital to Zachariah and Terrie Anderson.

Tarin was welcomed home by his brothers Nathan and Isaiah Anderson.

Grandparents are Rev. Harry and Augusta Anderson of Holdenville; Barbara Lane of Henryetta; and Mike Endres of Okmulgee.

The great grandparents are Katie Anderson of Wetumka; Dorothy Pinezaddle by of Okmulgee; James Holota of Wewoka; and Ruth Endres of Preston.

Tarin belongs to the Wind Clan and Cussetah Tribal Town.

Anderson

Jerean Elizabeth Mosquito

TULSA — Jerean Elizabeth Mosquito was born on February 11 at St. Francis Hospital to Jacob and Misty Mosquito of Mounds.

Maternal grandparents are Ray and Beth Shelton of Middletown, Ohio. Paternal grandparents are Craig and Debbie Mosquito of Mounds.

Maternal great grandparents are Dr. Ray L. and Jean Shelton of Waynesville, Ohio and Betty Gragg of Lebanon, Ohio.

Paternal great grandparent is Joe Mosquito of Hectorville.

Jerean has one sister, Alexandria, age 7.

Mosquito

Birthdays

Birthday celebration held for Alexander

OAKHURST — A celebration was held in honor of Rev. William Alexander to celebrate his 91st birthday on June 14 at the Indian Fellowship Baptist Church.

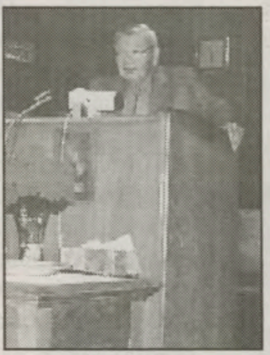
Rev. Alexander was born June 12, 1912 to Robert and Abbie Williams Alexander of Ragtown.

Many relatives and friends were in attendance.

Special recognition was given from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by Chief Perry Beaver; Second Chief, A.D. Ellis; and Executive Director, William Freeman.

Rev. Alexander has served as pastor of Indian Fellowship Baptist Church for 23 years. He expressed his thanks to the relatives and friends who were present on his special day.

The event was hosted by: his daughter and son-in-law; Mary and Stan Peak and sons; and Robert and E.J. Alexander.



Alexander

Girl celebrates fourth birthday with a Barbie theme party

OKEMAH — Emily Dawn Jacobs celebrated her fourth birthday with a barbie party at the park on May 25.

She is the daughter of Johnny "BJ" and Monica Jacobs of Okemah.

Maternal grandparents are Daria and Johnie Hicks of Okemah. Paternal grandmother is the late Linna Jacobs.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Frank and Annie Billy of Checotah. Paternal great grandmother is Sissie Lewis of Hanna.

Emily has one brother, Jalen.

Jacobs

Society

Creek soldier on active duty in Iraq

IRAQ — L CPL Arron Phillip Eads is currently in the United States Marine Corp and in the First Expeditionary Force Unit. He served during the Iraqi War and is presentlty on active duty in Iraq.

He is a member of New Town United Methodist Church.

He is the son of Melba and Gary Eads and grandson of Gideon Checote and Rosalie Laxton. Great grandparents are Rev. Samuel Checote and descendant of Chief Samuel Checote.

Eufaula Indian community honors seniors

EUFAULA — The President of the United States, George W. Bush, by proclamation, designated May as Older Americans Month.

In observation of that proclamation, the Eufaula Indian Community honored seniors age 60 and over that attended the community meeting on May 29.

To honor those in attendance, a long stem rose was presented to all seniors age 60 and over. In keeping with President Bush's proclamation, the Eufaula Indian community wishes to thank all of the seniors throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the lessons they teach and the strong values they instill in families and communities throughout our Country.

GLORIA FINE

OKTAHA — Funeral services for Gloria Jean Fine were held June 18 at Butler Creek Baptist Church with Revs. Norman Daniels and Thompson Billy officiating.

She was born March 15, 1942 in Muskogee to Timmie Lee and Grace Escoe Lee.

Fine was a member of the National Music Teachers Association, the Oklahoma Music Teachers Association and the Muskogee Area branch of the Oklahoma Music Teachers Association . She held all the offices of that Muskogee organization. In 2002, she received a plaque from the OMTA for 40 years of teaching. Gloria enjoyed classical and a variety of music and traveling.

Preceding her in death were her father and a sister, Loretta Purdin.

Survivors include: her husband, David of the home; son, Ray Broyles Jr. of Muskogee; mother, Grace Escoe Jones Billy; stepfather, Thompson Billy of Muskogee; sister, Phyllis Ann Weber of Dayton, Ohio; stepchildren, Linda Stevens and Angela Loflin both of Muskogee, and David Fine of Moody; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Interment was at Butler Creek Cemetery.

ALYCE FLEETWOOD

BIXBY — Funeral services for Alyce Marie Fleetwood were held at First United Methodist Church with Revs. Newman Frank Jr. and David Long officiating.

She was born June 13, 1924 in Okmulgee County to Felix G. and Lulu Lewis Morrison.

Alyce had lived in the Bixby and surrounding area most of her life. She graduated from Liberty High School in 1941 and received her college degree from the Oklahoma Presbyterian College for Women and South Eastern State College. Fleetwood was a well-known and respected elementary school teacher for many years of such schools as Twin Hills, Natura, Snake Creek, Liberty and Prue, as well as schools in New Mexico and Arizona.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Carl Fleetwood and a sister, Florence Watashe.

Survivors include: daughter, Carla J. Bennett of Stephenville, Texas; two sons, Roscoe E. of Tulsa and Randall M. Fleetwood of Sand Springs; sister, Mary Ann Babb of Tulsa; two grandchildren; one great-grandson; and several other relatives and good friends and many former students.

Casketbearers were: Robert and Dave Miller; Billy Bruner; Mike Hedrick; Mickey Fleetwood; Morris Dale O'Hern; Mike Edmonson; and Patrick Crowell. Honorary bearers include: Glyn Ritter; Glen Seaton; and Gary Hudgens.

Interment was at the Fleetwood/Bruner Cemetery in Okmulgee County.

ISLEY HARJO

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Isley Harjo were held May 28 at Hickory Ground # 1 Baptist Church with Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

Isley was born on February 14, 1911 to George and Callie Fisher Island in Bristow.

She married her husband, Cheparney, in Okemah in 1954.

Harjo attended Euchee Boarding School in Sapulpa as a young girl. She was the oldest member of Hickory Ground # 1 Baptist Church. Mrs. Harjo enjoyed quilting and cooking.

Harjo

Preceding her in death were: her parents; husband; two stepsons, Virgil and Jess Harjo; brother, Sunday Island; and three sisters, Annie Randall, Lavena Emarthle, and Louise Castillo.

Survivors include: son, Roman Harjo, Sr.; stepdaughter, Mary Jane Black; grandson; two nieces; and a host of other relatives and dear friends.

Pallbearers include: Roman Sr., Roman Jr., and Frank Harjo; Wallace Gambler; Marvin and Timmy Lowe.

Interment was at Westlawn Cemetery in Henryetta.

BENJAMIN HILL

HANNA — Funeral services for Benjamin Hill were held May 5 at Trenton Baptist Church with Revs. Malcolm Tiger and Richmond Carr officiating.

He was born February 15, 1944 in Hanna to Jack Isaac and Mary Proctor Hill.

Hill was a member of Trenton Baptist Church.

Preceding him in death were his parents and wife, Mandy Hill.

Survivors include: four sons, Benjamin Hill Jr. and Thomas Lewis, both of Eufaula, Sampson Lewis of Henryetta, and Jimmy Starr of Oklahoma City; three daughters, Frances Lewis of Eufaula, Pauline Lewis of Shawnee, and Christine Fixico of Dustin; seven brothers, Chapman of Henryetta, Dave of Shawnee, Eunice of Okemah, Roman of Seminole, Jacob of Salem, Josie of Wetumka, and Billy of Dustin; three sisters, Amy of Okemah, Maxine of Weleetka, and Lillie of Eufaula; mother, Mary; sixteen grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Interment was at the Proctor Family Cemetery

REBA THOMAS

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Reba Joyce Thomas were held June 4 at Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church with Rev. Mitchell Taylor and Sonny Braswell officiating.

She was born March 27, 1953 in Wetumka to Albert and Bernice Harjo Thomas.

In 1959, Reba's family moved from Wetumka to Dallas, Texas, where she attended school, graduated from high school, and began her first job for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Thomas worked in the clerical field, holding various positions for the Okmulgee Daily Times, Indian Health Service, Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah, Eddie Warrior Women's Correctional Facility and then retiring from George Nigh Rehabilitation Center after thirteen years with the State of Oklahoma.

Thomas

Reba enjoyed doing different things, which was proven in 1981 when she attended and became a certified welder and completed welding school. She was a member of the Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church, where she enjoyed meeting and being around all people.

Preceding her in death were: parents; husband, Bryan Adams; uncles, Duke and Jim Harjo; and aunt, Helen Bunny.

Survivors include: son, Anthony Adams; daughter, April Taylor, both of the home; two brothers, John of Red Oak and Loy of Okmulgee; three sisters, Peggy Lyda, Carolyn and Lois Thomas, all of Okmulgee; twelve nieces and nephews; thirteen great nieces and nephews; and a host of relatives and friends.

Pallbearers include: Victor, Sean, Eric, Christopher, and Zachary Thomas and Adam Harjo. Honorary pallbearers were: Kevin Brown; Quinton and Skyler Allen; and Scott Clifford.

Interment was at the Okmulgee Cemetery.

JOHN TIGER

OKEMAH — Funeral services for John V. Tiger were held June 19 at Springfield United Methodist Church with Revs. George Doyle and Alfred Goate officiating.

Born June 2, 1927 in Okfuskee County to Turner and Annie Berryhill Tiger, he married Cheryl Watson Tiger on July 25, 1972 in Tulsa. He was raised in Okfuskee County and attended Bigham School. Tiger had been a longtime resident of Okmulgee, but had been residing in Holdenville for the last four years. John was a longtime member of Springfield United Methodist Church and served as Ordained Elder.

Preceding him in death were: parents; two brothers, Noah and Joseph Tiger; and one sister, Sara Coker.

Survivors include: his wife of the home; two nephews; one niece; four great nieces; two great nephews; and a host of other relatives good friends and neighbors.

Pallbearers include: Sandy and Billy Barnett; Jim Humble; Jacob and George Fixico; and Thomas Yarhola. Honorary pallbearers include Junior Berryhill, Charley Simmer, and Malcolm Tiger.

Interment was at Creek Chapel Church Cemetery.

Gratitude

We cannot express what your kind words, food, floral gifts, and all the other expressions of love meant to the family. All the many prayers were truly a blessing.

We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Muscogee Creek Nation Honor Guard, Creek Tribal Services, Williamson Funeral Home, High Spring Baptist Church, the VFW, Alabama-Quassarte, our friends and family and any we have neglected to mention.

Our father was truly blesses to have friends and family such as you. *Mvto.*

Monroe Wind Family

Religion

Gospel singing to be held in Holdenville

HOLDENVILLE — Many Springs Baptist Church will be holding a gospel singing on Aug. 2 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The church is located five and 1/2 miles southeast on Highway 48 and 1 mile east.

Concession will be available. Bring your own lawn chairs.

Springfield to hold a coed tournament

OKEMAH — Springfield Methodist Church will be hold a coed slow-pitch tournament on July 18 and 19 at the Okemah Recreational Complex.

Entry fee is $125 with a 12-man roster consisting of six men and six women. First and second place teams will receive t-shirts.

Contact the following, after 5 PM, for more information: Jess Scott Jr. at (918) 650-5383; Mike Little at (918) 623-2184; or Keith Humble at (918) 623-0702. Concession will be available.

Workshop

continued from page 4

tional Mvscogee Creek stories to teach basic Mvscogee vocabulary and culture.

The workshop is scheduled for July 21-25, 6 p.m to 8:30 p.m and parents must provide their own transportation. Limited slots are available for children, ages seven to 15. Location for the workshop is to be announced.

For more information, contact Irene Tiger at (918) 272-5776.

Roadwork to begin in Okmulgee County

Principal Chief Perry Beaver and three Okmulgee County Commissioners signed a contract appropriating one hundred and twenty five thousand dollars of tribal funds intended for roadwork to Okmulgee County to assist in paying for the cost of paving the Hectorville road.

According to Chief Beaver, "This is a part of our five year plan to better the roads in our jurisdiction. This is not the first road we've helped on."

The road is located south of Glenpool, east of highway 75 south, and off of the Bixby road and serves an estimated 600 cars daily. "It's a major road and will benefit all," says Jack Chaney, Roads Engineer.

The five-year plan includes several other roads, one of which is the Arbeka road south of Henryetta.

Plans

continued from page 1

including the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Once completed this project will generate an estimate of 300 jobs. It will also assist in increasing the tourism industry, a multi-billion dollar enterprise that Tulsa is slowly slipping downward. This increase in tourism is expected to create an upward spiral in the economy of both the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tulsa, and the North Eastern section of Oklahoma, as people travel to get to the casino, spend money in the casino, spend the night in local motels, eat at local restaurants, all of which bring money into the economy benefiting of everyone.

Coaches

continued from page 1

that a athlete was scaled on being limber and loose, but we've gone from agility to much bigger athletes."

Beaver agrees. "I coached a team that went undefeated in 1982, people said that was the best team ever in school history. We had players weighing out at 230 and 240. A few years later, Jenks had players that were 280 and 290."

Anderson, a 1996 inductee whose 31 year coaching career produced 22 District Championships, as well as 21 Conference Titles, pointed more at the relationship of coaches to athletes. "Its all about discipline, and how its changed. I think the coaches are the best disciplinarians any student can have while attending school."

He also pointed out how the style of the games have progressed, specifically basketball. "The 3-point shot has certainly changed the game of basketball. The game has become all offensive, not enough defense."

When commenting on whether coaches are superstitious or not, all agreed that coaches are creatures of habit, and certainly stick to a schedule or attire, and that routine is sometimes perceived in this manner.

"If I was winning in a blue suit, I was going to wear that blue suit until I lost," said Anderson. "I wore the same tie for 16 games, until my wife hid it from me. We lost the next game."

Of all the changes the coaches have seen, all agreed the introduction and education of weightlifting has totally transformed today's high school sports.

"When I was playing, weight lifting was a no-no," said Beaver. "They (coaches) didn't want us to lift weights, but they sure wanted us to haul hay in the summer," he laughs. "But weight training became a science, and I watched it grow and saw how certain schools were using it."

"All you had to do was see who you were losing to." said McHenry, who hasn't lost very often though, claiming 12 district championships and four regional championships in football and counting. "If you were losing to schools that had a weight program, you were getting further behind."

The coaches went on to talk about Indian athletes in their programs. Coach Ryal, who was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1996 and won a state baseball championship in 1978, reminisced about some Creek boys he saw shine.

"Kendall Thompson and A.J. Tiger were very good athletes in their time," said Ryal. "It seemed the Indian athlete would take things a little more serious when games got tough."

Each coach also mentioned names like Colbert, Noble, Wind, Dillingham, and Berryhill. Ryal, at the coaxing of the other coaches, was modest in mentioning his son Mark, who went on to a successful professional baseball career.

Beaver commented that Indian athletes seem to carry out their assignments better.

"You know the Indian athlete doesn't get rattled. A lot of coaches have told me that they like coaching Indian athletes because they don't get rattled."

Although much praise was bestowed upon the Native American athlete, the coaches also expressed remorse in that many Indian athletes do not go further in the field of sports.

"I've seen a lot of Indian athletes that are out of high school and are now only playing independent tournaments," said Ryal. "I was impressed with their talents, and I knew that many of them could have easily gone on to play college ball."

Beaver added, "I was on a panel once along with a college coach and he was asked the question, why don't you recruit Indian athletes? He said because their is a stigma about Indian athletes. I think it was all wrong. We want to compete and win just as much as anyone else does."

Induction into the Coaches Association Hall of Fame is not an honor bestowed upon every athletic mentor. One must be nominated by his peers and certainly possess the winning records to justify the induction. Native Americans have certainly been well-represented in this unique fraternity.

"Out of 310 coaches in the Hall of Fame, at least 115 of those are of Indian descent," said Anderson. "We got there because we worked hard, not because we were of any specific color. If I had to do it all over again, I would."

Sapulpa Health Center celebrates nurses' week

SAPULPA — In honor of nurses' week, the Sapulpa Indian Health Center Nursing Department held a luncheon and presented flowers in recognition and appreciation of the dedication and outstanding service provided by the nursing staff.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation CHR employees, Etta Dickerson and Bonnie Jones, also honored each nurse with presentations of balloons.

The nursing Staff commented the special recognition wasn't limited to just Sapulpa, but to all the nursing staffs within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation health system.

Pictured above, from left to right, are: Carol Pendergrass, Lyn Betterton, Anna Walking-Eagle, Kellie Briggs, and Sherry Butler.

Allottees

continued from page 1

Martin began to do more research, and decided something needed to be done to honor these special people. She met with Tulsa District Representative Cherrah Ridge-Quiett to get sponsorship of a bill creating an honor ceremony.

"I had a lot of work to prepare and didn't know if they (council) were going pass it, but they were very helpful," said Martin.

The event was highlighted by a photo session and an afternoon luncheon. Martin knew that the event would take a lot of manpower, but was overwhelmed and very grateful for the support that was given.

Three Original Alottees were present, they were California Fixico, Martha Berryhill, and Lucy Condren. Also present were 75 full bloods.

"It felt so good to do all this," adds Martin. "This was not labor, but it was receiving a blessing of sorts. History is passing right before our eyes, if we don't do something about it, it's our fault."

Newspaper seeks candidate profiles

OKMULGEE — The staff of *The Muscogee Nation News* is seeking profiles from candidates running for Principal Chief, Second Chief, and National Council Representatives. Profile forms are available in the Communications Department.

Profiles published in the newspaper will have the following space limitations: principal chief, 500 words; second chief, 300 words; and National Council representatives, 150 words. All submissions will be edited for space, style, and grammar. If additional space is available, text exceeding the word limit will be published to fill the text blocks.

A photograph may be included with the candidate profiles. The photograph must be a focused, color or black and white photo with good contrast. If you do not have a photo, the Communications Department will be available to take your picture.

YOUTH OLYMPICS
1st place Sapulpa 77 points
2nd place Okfuskee 54 points
3rd place Okmulgee 41 points

1 MILE RUN:
1st place Christopher Barr 6:00.79 Keetoowah Windrunners
2nd place Dallas Johnson 6:12.06 Morris
3rd place Robert West 6:32.82 Okfuskee

1 MILE RUN: GIRLS:
1st place Danielle Marques

400 METER RELAY 6-7 BOYS:
1st place Sapulpa 1:16.75
2nd place Okfuskee 1:27.10
3rd place Weleetka 1:27.22

400 METER RELAY 6-7 GIRLS:
1st place Okfuskee 1:27.84
2nd place Morris 1:31.68

400 METER RELAY 8-9 BOYS:
1st place Ofuskee 1:17.16
2nd place Holdenville 1:15.19

400 METER RELAY 8-9 GIRLS:
1st place Ofuskee 1:16.00
2nd place Sapulpa 1:16.19
3rd place Okmulgee 1:18.44

400 METER RELAY 10-11 BOYS:
1st place Sapulpa 1:02.91
2nd place Okfuskee 1:06.05
3rd place Wetumka 1:07.81

400 METER RELAY 10-11 GIRLS:
1st place Sapulpa 1:08.62
2nd place Tulsa Earthrunners 1:10.53
3rd place Morris 1:13.75

400 METER RELAY 12-13 BOYS:
1st place Sapulpa 56.68
2nd place Okmulgee 1:01.36
3rd place Morris 1:05.95

400 METER RELAY 12-13 GIRLS:
1st place Morris 58.66
2nd place Sapulpa 1:00.09
3rd place Okfuskee 1:01.55

400 METER RELAY 14-15 BOYS:
1st place Sapulpa 52.13
2nd place Morris 54.25
3rd place Okfuskee 58.25

400 METER RELAY 14-15 GIRLS:
1st place Sapulpa 1:02.66
2nd place Okfuskee 1:03.56

HOOP SHOOT 10-11 BOYS:
1st place Terrance Yahola Wetumka
2nd place Seth Deere Holdenville
3rd place Josh Littlebear Sapulpa

HOOPSHOOT 10-11 GIRLS:
1st place Jessika Littlehead Sapulpa
2nd place Jennifer Calico Kettoowah Windrunners
3rd place Sadie West Holdenville

HOOP SHOOT 12-13 BOYS:
1st place Jonathan Littlebear Sapulpa
2nd place Charlie Limore Keetoowah Windrunners
3rd place Tyler Koshiway Sapulpa

HOOP SHOOT 12-13 GIRLS:
1st place Shel by Johnson Ofuskee
2nd place Ashley Fox Morris
3rd place Cheyenne Hill Okfuskee

HOOP SHOOT 14-15 Boys
1st place Cameron Fixico Okfuskee
2nd place Dallas Johnson Morris
3rd place Patrick Littlebear Sapulpa

HOOP SHOOT 14-15 Girls
1st place Whitney Williams Muscogee
2nd place Aleena Harley Okmulgee
3rd place Tiesha Henneha Okfuskee

LONG JUMP 14-15 Girls
1st place SiMary Mason Bristow 12'3"

LONG JUMP 14-15 Boys
1st place Tyler Sutter Field, Okmulgee - 16'11"
2nd place Chris Barr, Keetoowah Windrunners - 16'
3rd place Cameron Fixico, Okfuskee - 14'15"

SOFTBALL THROW 6-7 Boys
1st place Rylan Mack, Okfuskee - 93'8"
2nd place Jeremiah Winney, Weleetka - 81'8"
3rd place Kyle Barnet, Bristow - 81'5"

SOFTBALL THROW 6-7 Girls
1st place Jennie Sanders Keetovah Windrunners 57'8"
2nd place Laranda Parish Muscogee 54'8"
3rd place Brittany Harjo Okfuskee 52'7"

SOFTBALL THROW 8-9 Boys
1st place Tyler Evans Weleetka 113'
2nd place Lucas West Holdenville 94'10"
3rd place Robin Roberts Okfuskee 89'

SOFTBALL THROW 8-9 girls
1st place Danielle Bear Okfuskee 88'
2nd place Hannah Whitecloud Okmulgee II 86'
3rd place Amber Harjo Sapulpa 68'4"

30 METER DASH 6-7 Boys
1st place Trystin Edwards Muscogee 0:05.04
2nd place Shaun Bencoma Weleetka 0:05.16
3rd place Rylan Mack Okfuskee 0:05.18

30 METER DASH 6-7 Girls
1st place Cassie Jackson Okmulgee 0:05.66
2nd place Jerrae Sanders Keetowah Windrunners 0:05.83
3rd place April Bear Okfuskee 0:05.93

50 METER DASH 6-7 Boys
1st place Shaun Bencoma Weleetka 0:09.03
2nd place Caleb Littlehead Sapulpa 0:09.14
3rd place Jeremiah Winney Weleetka 0:09.95

50 METER DASH 6-7 Girls
1st place April Bear Okfuskee 0:09.79
2nd place Cassie Jackson Okmulgee 0:09.82
3rd place Jerrae Sanders Keetoowah Windrunners 0:09.95

50 METER DASH 8-9 Boys
1st place Tyler Evens Weleetka 0:08.22
2nd place Alex Hicks Wetumka 0:08.49
3rd place Gruftin Cox Okfuskee 0:08.62

50 METER DASH 8-9 Girls
1st place Hanna Whitecloud Okmulgee II 0:08.46
2nd place Kimberlee Billy Wetumka 0:08.93
3rd place Danielle Bear Okfuskee 0:08.94

50 METER DASH 10-11 Boys
1st place Jimmy Asbury Holdenville 0:07.30
2nd place Mario Johnson Bristow 0:07.59
3rd place Kendell Hildreth Muscogee 0:07.75

50 METER DASH 10-11 Girls
1st place Katie Fish Sapulpa 0:07.81
2nd place Lodie Williams Bristow 0:07.93
3rd place Bailey Crusher Okmulgee 0:07.94

100 METER DASH 8-9 Boys
1st place Tyler Evens Weleetka 0:16.31
2nd place Alex Hicks Wetumka 0:16.88
3rd place Aaron Littlehead Sapulpla 0:17.25

100 METER DASH 8-9 Girls
1st place Hannah Whitecloud Okmulgee II 0:17.04
2nd place Danielle Bear Okfuskee 0:18.00
3rd place Shae Tiger Wetumka 0:18.01

100 METER DASH 10-11 Boys
1st place Paul Littlebear Sapulpa 0:14.78
2nd place Mario Johnson Bristow 0:15.15
3rd place Jacob Mason Bristow 0:15.69

100 METER DASH 10-11 Girls
1st place Katie Fish Sapulpa 0:14.97
2nd place Tiffany Sullivan Okmulgee 0:15.66
3rd place Theresa Rabbit Tulsa Earthrunners 0:15.80

100 METER DASH 12-13 Boys
1st place Justin Burgess Okmulgee 0:14.38
2nd place Jordan Tarpalechee Sapulpa 0:14.59
3rd place Travis Tiger Wetumka 0:14.66

100 METER DASH 12-13 Girls
1st place Beth Everette Morris 0:13.92
2nd place Kristy Hill Okfuskee 0:14.28
3rd place Stacie Littlehead Sapulpa 0:14.29

100 METER DASH 14-15 Boys
1st place Ronald Shockley Sapulpa 0:11.97
2nd place Ross Everett Morris 0:12.28
3rd place Andrew Bevenue Okmulgee 0:12.44

100 METER DASH 14-15 Girls
1st place Desiree Booker Okmulgee 0:13.48
2nd place Michelle Whitlow Morris 0:14.53
3rd place Janea Gabbard Sapulpa 0:14.88

200 METER DASH 8-9 Boys
1st place Nathan Checotah Okmulgee 0:41.34
2nd place Grufin Cox Okfuskee 0:42.19
3rd place Cory Sanders Okmulgee 0:43.40

200 METER DASH 8-9 Girls
1st place Hannah Whitecloud Okmulgee 0:36.94
2nd place Tia Jim Sapulpa 0:37.62
3rd place Shae Tiger Wetumka 0:39.71

200 METER DASH 10-11 Boys
1st place Paul Littlebear Sapulpa 0:30.12
2nd place Jacob Mason Bristow 0:33.14
3rd place Mario Johnson Bristow 0:33.50

200 METER DASH 10-11 Girls
1st place Katie Fish Sapulpa 0:30.09
2nd place Jennifer Killian Okmulgee 0:34.83
3rd place Kristen Frye Tulsa Earthrunners 0:35.00

200 METER DASH 12-13 Boys
1st place Brett Littlebear Sapulpa 0:25.16
2nd place Brian Tiger Okfuskee 0:30.53
3rd place Jordan Tarpalechee Sapulpa 0:31.65

200 METER DASH 12-13 Girls
1st place Beth Everett Morris 0:30.09
2nd place Cassady Haworth Morris 0:30.53
3rd place Kristy Hill Okfuskee 0:31.65

200 METER DASH 14-15 Boys
1st place Ross Everett Morris 0:25.13
2nd place Patrick Littlebear Sapulpa 0:25.82
3rd place Tyler Sutterfield Okmulgee 0:26.28

200 METER DASH 14-15 Girls
1st place Desiree Booker Okmulgee 0:28.76
2nd place SiMary Mason Bristow 0:29.78
3rd place Lisa Bell Morris 0:30.64

400 METER DASH 12-13 Boys
1st place Brett Littlebear Sapulpa 0:58.23
2nd place Justin Burgess Okmulgee 1:11.72
3rd place Tony Davis Bristow 1:18.25

400 METER DASH 14-15 Boys
1st place Ross Everett Morris 0:59.27
2nd place Patrick Littlebear Sapulpa 0:59.43
3rd place Toney Davis Bristow 1:01.62

400 METER DASH 14-15 Girls
1st place Desiree Booker Okmulgee 1:10.52
2nd place SiMary Mason Bristow 1:16.78
3rd place Janea Gabbard Sapulpa 1:16.94

PAGEANTRY
Division 1: Winner, Madeline Gouge, Okmulgee
Runner-up , Ashlynn Postoak, Holdenville
Divison 2: Winner, Kayla Pritchett, Mounds
Runner- up, Micckah Brown, Sapulpa
Division 3 - Winner, Delana Bear, Weleetka
Runner-up, Leah Scott, Holdenville
Jr.Miss - Winner, Toni Factor, Glenpool
Runner-up, Faith Harjo, Glenpool
Miss Mvskoke - Winner, Felicia Factor, Glenpool
Runner-up, Leandra Thompson, Tulsa
SR.Miss - Winner, KatieSmith, Coweta
Runner-up , Leona Sullivan, Broken Arrow

3 on 3 BASKETBALL
Boys 9 to 12: 1st, Wolfpack; 2nd, Warriors; and 3rd, Eagles
Girls 9 to 12: 1st, Little Native Impact; 2nd, Native Stars; and 3rd, Red Skins
Boys 13 to 15: 1st, Sapulpa Indians; 2nd, Hoop Warriors; and 3rd, Warriors

please see **FESTIVAL RESULTS**..., page 9

Festival results

continued from page 8

Girls 13 to 15: 1st, Lady Hoppers; 2nd, Lady Red Skins; and 3rd, Lady Worriors

Boys 16 to 18: 1st, D'Towns Finest; 2nd, Shades of Red; 3rd, Eufaula Indian Community # 2

Girls 16 to 18: 1st, Dustin #1; 2nd, The Storm; and 3rd, 5 Lil Ladies

Boys 19 and Open: 1st, M.O.B.; 2nd, Tripple X; and 3rd, Dog Soldiers

Girls 19 and Open: 1st, Native Impact; 2nd, Wolfpack; and 3rd, Old School

GOLF

A: 1st, Stan Duncan; 2nd, Charles Wilson; and 3rd, Scott Freeman

B: 1st, Elvis Gibson; 2nd, David Conard; and 3rd, Brett Hays

C: 1st. Leon Brown; 2nd, Dennis Tate; and 3rd, Ben Dunson

5K WALK/RUN

Overall Male Honors: Tom Lam

Overall Female Honors: Lacey Akers

Walker: 1st, Floyd Bales; 2nd, Pat Factor-Thomas; and 3rd, Della Walking Sky

ELDERLY ACTIVITIES

Horseshoe: 1st, Johnny Hicks - 2nd, Leon Bell

Dominoes: 1st, Tom and Bill Chalakee - 2nd, Bill and Jack Barnett

Gift Walkers winners: Pauline Rabbit, Tom Tiger, Evelyn Parker, and Agnes Randall.

VOLLEYBALL

1st, M.V.P.'s, Pryor; 2nd, Native Players, Okmulgee; and 3rd, Just Us, Henryetta

TOUGHMAN CONTEST

185 pounds & over: Mike Cooper

185 pounds & under: Chris Gazzaway

CO-ED SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL

1st, Connection, Talequah; 2nd, The Braves, Sallisaw; 3rd, Magic, Talequah; and 4th, Seminoles, Oklahoma City

FAST PITCH WOMEN'S

1st, Fus-ca-te; 2nd, Red Feathers; 3rd, Lady Reds; and 4th, Goldriver Renegades

MVP - Missy Fox - **ALL STARS**: Fus-ca-te - Sammy Rabbit, Shareena Pulse, and Tia Riech; Red Feathers - Haley Buzzard, Stormy Denton, and Timeka Barnes; Lady Reds: Karen Littlehead and Bailey Lowe; and Goldriver Renegades: Kalone Hulbutta

FAST PITCH MEN'S

1st, Old School; 2nd, Native; 3rd, Ada Tribes; and 4th, Tribesmen

MVP - Robbie Hight - **ALL STARS**: Old School - Brad Hight, Eugeng Freeman, and Adrian "Tank" Braswell; Native - Myron Bolin, Mike Tiger, and Steven Jones; Ada Tribes - Victor Smith and David Buzzard; and Tribesmen, Roy Kaseca

RODEO

Friday - Barrel Racing: 1st, Erica Bacon; 2nd, Shae Herrera; 3rd, Jennifer Weaver; and 4th, Leah Wiseman

Calf Roping: 1st, Shane Slack; 2nd, Shane Ross; and 3rd, Bruce Posey

Break Away Roping: Brenna Winship

Steer Wrestling: Howard Edmondson

Jr. Barrel Racing: 1st, Micaela Carlile; 2nd, Bailey Pipkins; 3rd, Tiffany Treat; and 4th, M. Mathis

Bull Riding: 1st, Ricardo Tarin - 2nd, Carlton Free

Team Roping: 1st, Tim Pipkins and Scott Dailey; 2nd, Doyle Bacon and Roy Cox; 3rd, Dee Keener and Scott Daily; 4th, Keith Bacon and Kevin Bacon; and 5th, Kendall Roberts and Boog Roberts

Jr. Steer Wrestling: 1st, Lane Scott - 2nd, William Parker

Saturday - Barrel Racing: 1st, Brandy Coble; 2nd, Erica Bacon; and 3rd, Jennifer Weaver

Calf Roping: 1st, Shane Ross; 2nd, Shane Slack; and 3rd, Coyle Coble

Break Away Roping: Kasi Prather

Steer Wrestling : Howard Edmondson

Jr. Barrel Racing: 1st, Taylor O'Neil; 2nd, Micaela Carlile; 3rd, Montana Barnes; and 4th, Bailey Pipkins

Saddle Bronc Riding: Harry Johnson

Bull Riding: Brad Fish

Team Roping: 1st, Dee Keener and Scott Dailey; 2nd, Body Roberts and Boog Roberts; 3rd, Jesse Wiliams and Todd Jesse; 4th, Tim Pipkins and Brad Pipkins; and 5th, Doyle Bacon and Roy Cox

Jr. Steer Wrestling: Lane Scott

Council

continued from page 3

• approved (16-7-0) TR 03-030, authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation gaming operations authority board to exercise temporary jurisdiction and control over the Okemah Indian gaming center;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Peter**, Okmulgee; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

representatives **Lewis** and **Peters** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 03-031, recognizing the crew and family members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation firefighters for their part in the space shuttle Columbia recovery;

representatives **Lewis** and **Peters** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 03-035, designating Muskogee county council of youth services as the organization to utilize formula grant funds;

representatives **Lewis** and **Peters** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (20-1-0) TR 03-036, approving the lease agreement for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Jackson**, Okfuskee;

•approved (23-0-0) TR 03-037, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the replacement of fencing on Creek Nation tribal trust lands located in McIntosh County, Oklahoma;

• postponed (22-1-0) TR 03-038, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the demolition of the abandoned Oakdale school building;

voting no were: **Lewis**, Okmulgee;

• approved as amended (22-1-0) TR 03-039, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an agreement with American promotional events, Inc., for the operations of one temporary fireworks sales facility on tribal trust land to benefit the Tulsa Creek Indian community;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• failed (11-12-0) TR 03-041, confirming the nomination of **Owen Sapulpa** to serve on the Muscogee Nation enterprise board of directors;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Peter**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (22-1-0) TR 03-042, confirming the renomination of **Toske Willits** to serve on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizenship board;

voting no were: **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Nichols** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (18-4-0) TR 03-043, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a special services agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Micrguard systems L.L.C.;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee;

representatives **Hufft** and **Nichols** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (21-0-0) TR 03-044, recognizing the Sequoyah high school basketball team and coaches for achieving the Oklahoma class 3A state championship;

representative **Pickering** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• return to committee (12-9-0) NCA 03-046, creating language revitalization and establishing the Muscogee language division;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee;

• return to committee (12-10-0) NCA 03-067, amending NCA 01-183 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, amending certain laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, repealing certain laws and adding new law concerning the public gaming for purpose of codification in title 21 of the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation), relating to procedures for the appointment of members to the gaming operations authority board;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 03-070, authorizing a special appropriation to the Nuyaka ceremonial grounds for the construction of bathroom facilities;

representative **Golden** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved (17-4-0) NCA 03-083, appropriating funds for a special services agreement with Kelley & Associates;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Kelley** was excused;

• approved as amended (21-0-0) NCA 03-084, recognizing the original allottees and certain elders of the nation and authorizing a special appropriation to fund a reception for same;

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 03-086, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation realty department;

• approved (16-5-0) NCA 03-086, appropriation funds for a special services agreement with Micrguard systems, L.L.C.;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved (18-2-1) NCA 03-090, authorizing a special appropriating to the Clyde "Press" Johnson youth organization, Inc., a nonprofit organization;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

abstain were: **Peters**, Okmulgee;

June 16 special session

Absent was **Judy Aaron**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee District; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee District; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee District; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

• approved (15-0-0) NCA 03-123, approving the FY 2003 Indian Housing plan

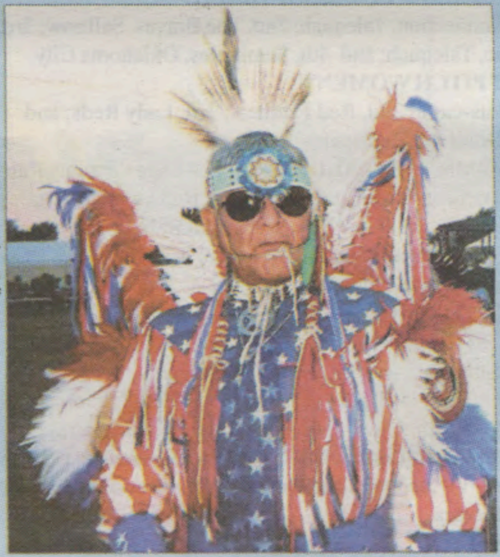
voting yes were: **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek District; **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee District; **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee District; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce District; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa District; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa District; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner District; **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner District.

29th ANNUAL Creek Festival

Justin Burgess makes a Carl Lewis type jump during the youth olympics.

Jana worked up a sweat while performing during the entertainment portion of the festival.

A Renegade player prepares to take a cut during a women's fast pitch game.



Robert Alexander proudly displays his full regalia of red, white and blue.

A unidentified cowboy rides in with the American Flag during opening ceremonies.

Several kids stayed up past their usual bedtime to participate in the stompdance.

A boxer connects with a stiff left jab during the inaugural Tough Man Contest.

Chief Beaver prepares to give the welcome address.

One of the early favorites connects during the Home Run Derby at the Okmulgee City Parks.

A focused golfer tries to anticipate the break the ball will make on its way to the hole.

Cupcake, The Love Clown, once again spreads and joy and happiness during the Health Fair.

The crowd watches as a 3 on 3 participant gets ready to flush one home.

GREAT SEA
MUSCOGEE NATION

The young participant prepares to unload his cannon.

NORRIS
2003

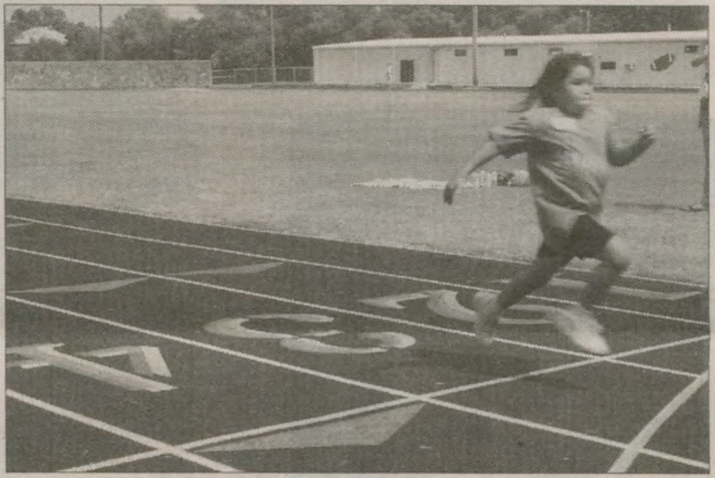
A youth olympic winner proudly display a winning medal at the Rodeo.

These relay runners make their way to the final turn.

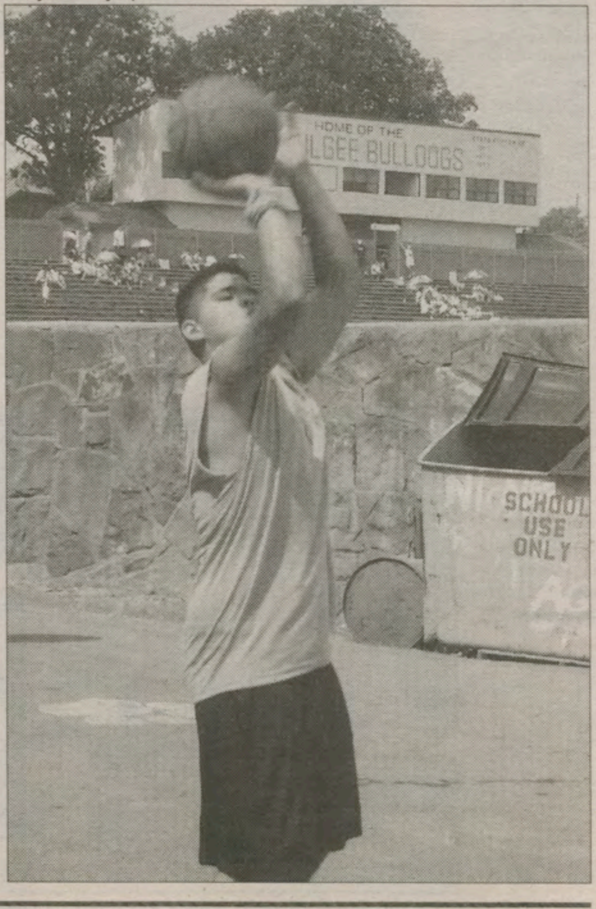
MORRIS
2003

Morris Indian Community relay team is out to an early lead.

Lane three runner crosses the finish line first.



Brian Beartrack takes aim at the goal during the hoop shot contest at the youth olympics.

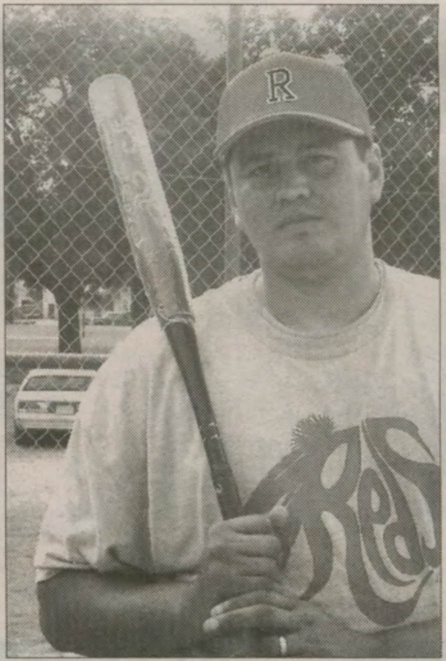

HOME OF THE
ULGEE BULLDOGS
SCHOOL
USE
ONLY

A Home Run Derby contestant sends one deep.

Roland Roberts watches the bat make perfect contact with the ball.

Kesha Williams, batting, waits for the pitch.

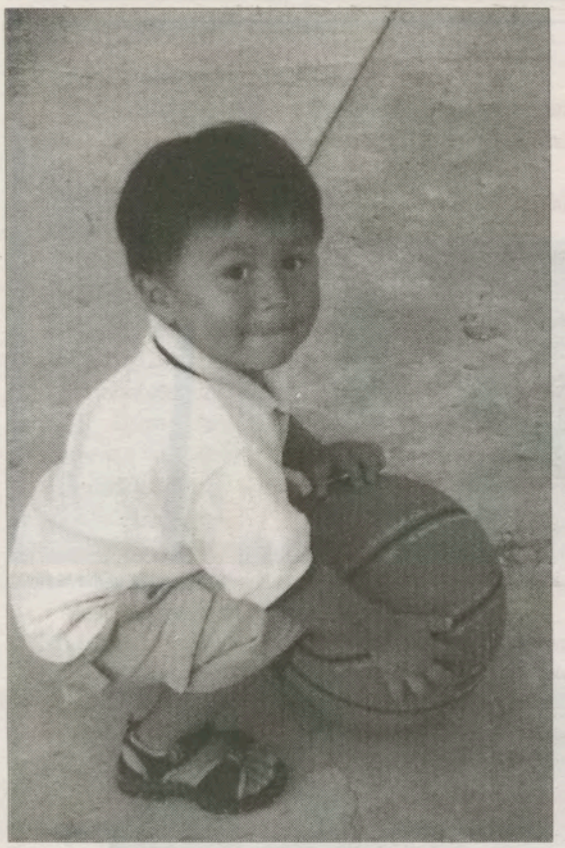
Teammates from 1st place Connections, show off their female and male MVP awards.



David Pascale battled close to 30 competitors to be crowned this year's Home Run King.

Fourth place team out of Oklahoma City, The Seminoles.

Tao Tiger prepares to run as she puts the ball in play.



Future 3 on 3 hooper wants to know who is next.

Josh Roberts makes a cut to the goal against the Bad Boys.

Shades of Red has control of the ball as 'D Townz Fynest applies the pressure defense.

Madeline Gouge, Little Miss Division I Winner

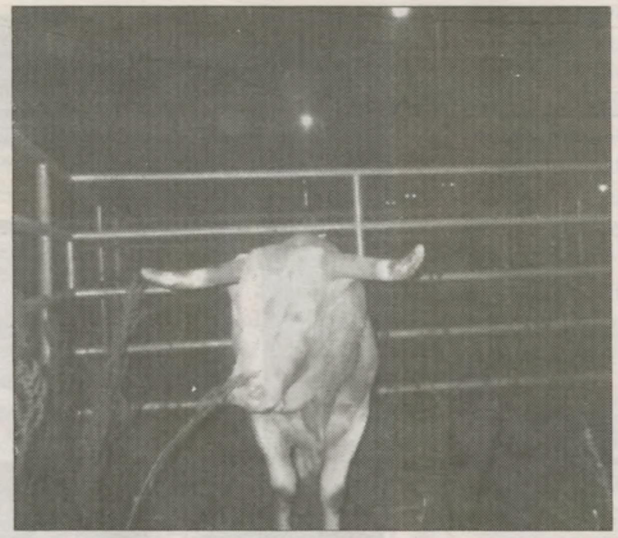
Leona Sullivan, Katie Smith, and Chief Beaver check out the sights and sounds of the festival in style.

Felicia Factor, Miss Mvskoke Nation Winner

Little Miss Division II and III Winners, Kayla Pritchett and Delana Bear, proudly display their 1st place trophies.

Delana Bear and Katie Smith

Newly crowned Mvskoke princesses: Delana Bear, Felicia Factor, Katie Smith, and Toni Factor



Team roping at the Creek Nation Festival Rodeo.

A spectator pays respect to "Old Glory" during opening ceremonies of the rodeo.

Creek Nation Festival Rodeo Staff: Bob Arrington, Joel and Mitchell Lake, Jeff Fife, Jimmy Basquez, Rick Greggs, and BJ Cheek

Pat Vegas, Red Bone Lead Singer

A horseshoe tournament contestant prepares to throw a shoe.

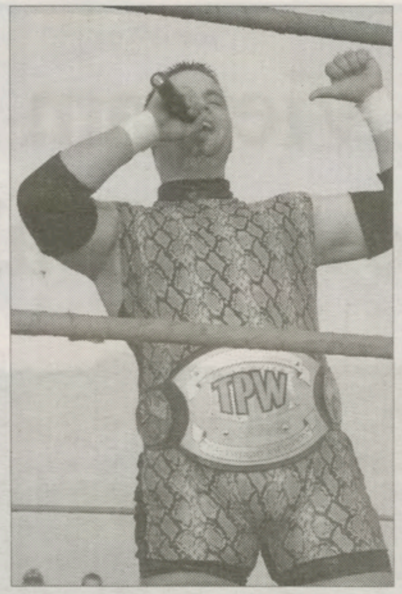
Senior Ms Muskoke Nation

Chief Beaver and Senior Ms. Mvskoke Nation Katie Smith.

Danny 'Duh Clown entertains a family at the health fair.

L. Miner, future tough man champion.

Tom Lam, 1st Place finisher of the 5K Run,



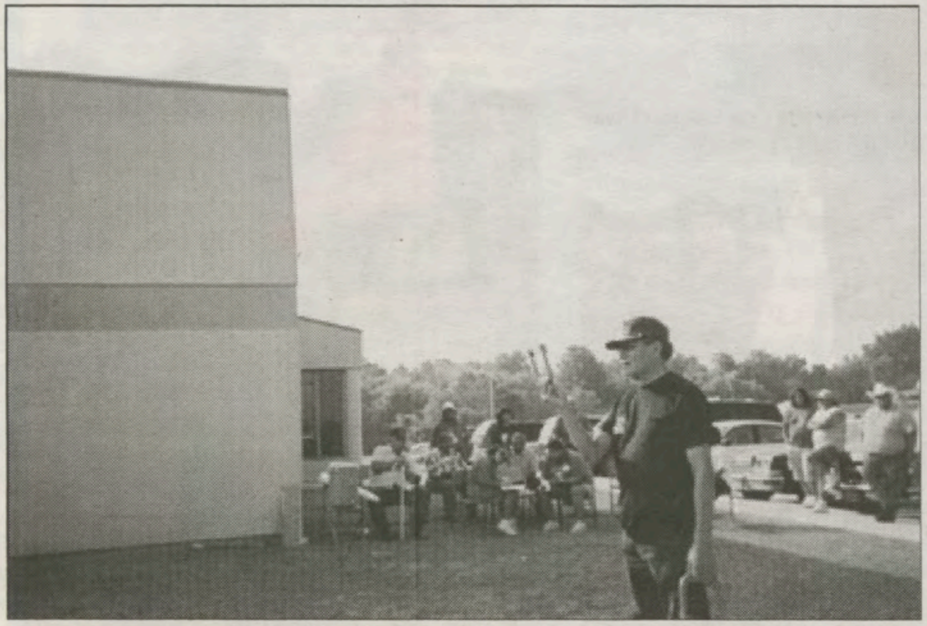
Jeff Scott Fife, Jr. in his pow wow regalia.

Opal Alexander and Chief Beaver at the Creek Nation Festival 5K Run.

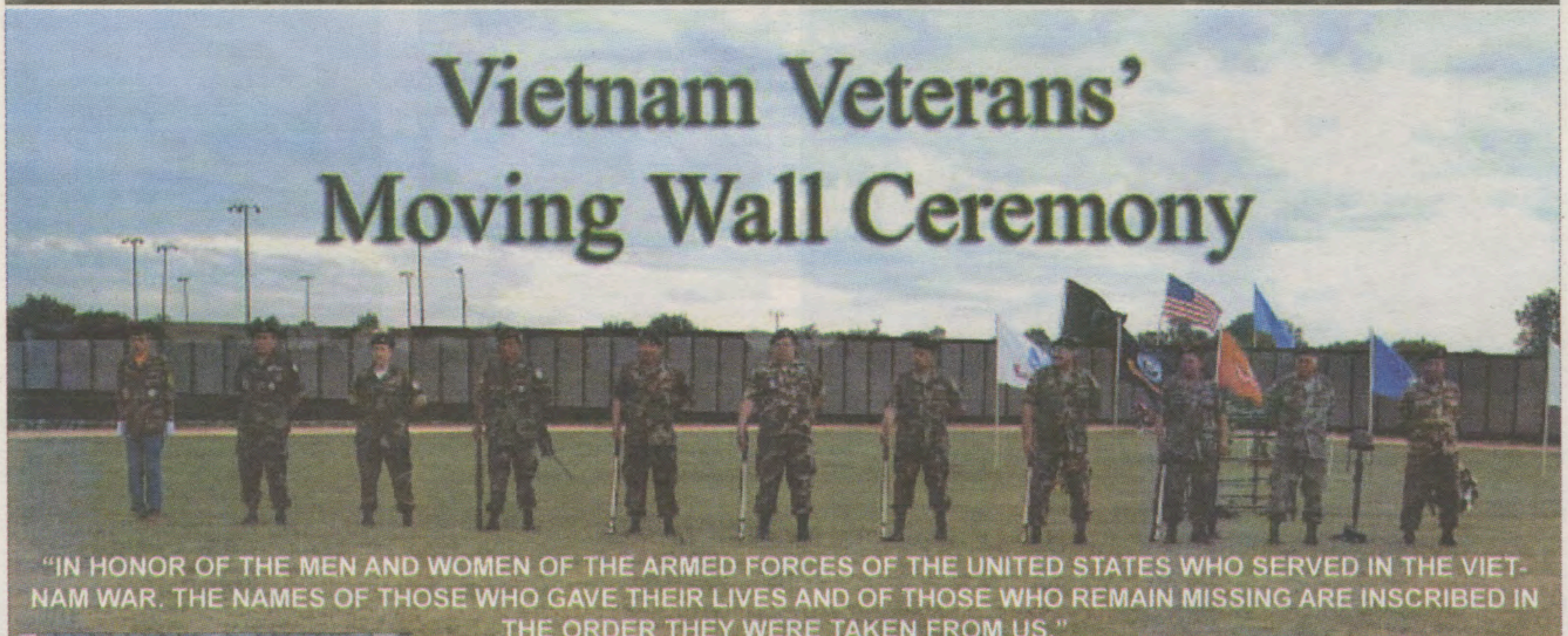
Crystal Underwood, Miss Chickasaw Princess

Chickasaw Princess
2002-2003

Bill Barnett aims for a ringer at the Elderly Activities.



Vietnam Veterans' Moving Wall Ceremony



"IN HONOR OF THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES WHO SERVED IN THE VIETNAM WAR. THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES AND OF THOSE WHO REMAIN MISSING ARE INSCRIBED IN THE ORDER THEY WERE TAKEN FROM US."

Bill Jones, a Vietnam War Veteran, welcomes everyone to the Moving Wall Ceremony.

Bill Jones introduces Miss Muscogee Nation, Jade McIntosh, and Junior Miss Muscogee Nation, Brenna Littlehead.

Chief Perry Beaver commends everyone on the hard work and preparations for this special occassion.

Smiley Barnett, Creek Nation Honor Guard Chaplin.

Vietnam Veteran, Frank Sewell, points out a name on the wall to his daughter, Kristie Harjo.

Tim Thompson, Creek Nation Honor Guard Vice-Commander.

Roads program receives recognition award

• Story Page 4

Muscogee Nation 2003 Election section

• Page 10

CREEK NATION
TULSA
GAMING CENTER

SPORTS
Creek Warrior fights again

• Story Page 20

Muscogee Nation News

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Four file for office of Muscogee principal chief

OKMULGEE — Four tribal members, including current second chief A.D. Ellis of Beggs, have officially filed for the office of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief.

The other candidates include: Samuel Alexander of Wagoner; Bill S. Fife of Dustin; and Valeria Henneha Littlecreek of Okemah.

Five candidates are seeking the office of second chief. Running for that office are: Perry Anderson of Eufaula; Alfred L. Berryhill of Okmulgee; Nathan Buck of Holdenville; Wilbur Chebon Gouge of Eufaula; and Curtis Hicks of Okmulgee.

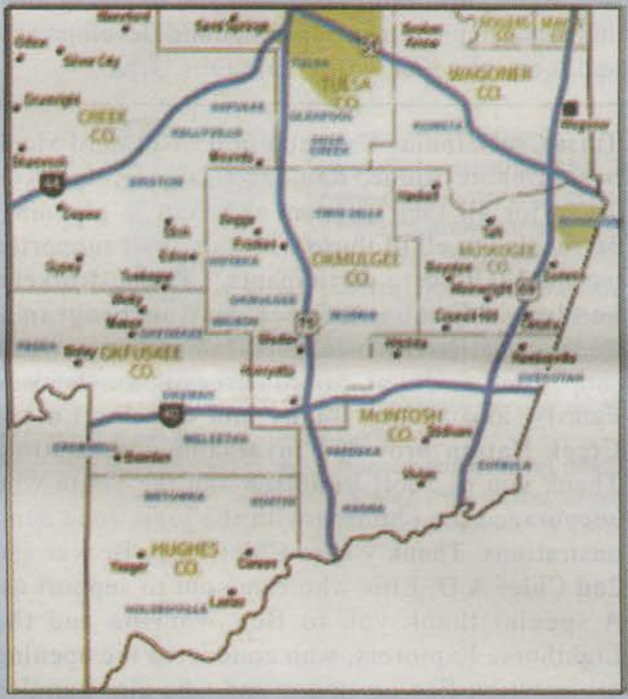
Forty-six tribal citizens have filed for 26 National Council seats. Eleven races were unopposed. Races without contest are:

- **Creek District** - *Seat C*: Roger Barnett, incumbent;
- **McIntosh District** - *Seat C*: Thomas McIntosh, incumbent;
- **Muscogee District** - *Seat A*: Sandra Parish, incumbent;
- **Okfuskee District** - *Seat C*: Sandra Golden, incumbent;
- **Okmulgee District** - *Seat B*: Keeper James Johnson, incumbent and *Seat E*: David Nichols, incumbent;
- **Tukvpvtce District** - *Seat B*: Thomas Yahola, incumbent
- **Tulsa District** - *Seat B*: Cherrah Quiett, incumbent; and *Seat D*: Robert Hufft, incumbent; and
- **Wagoner District** - *Seat A*: Richard Berryhill, incumbent; and *Seat B*: Barbara Gillespie, incumbent.

Tribal Election Dates
Primary Election — Sept. 20
General Election — Nov. 8

See election section beginning on page 10.

Muscogee Nation Election 2003



VOTING PRECINCTS

Creek District
Bristow Indian Community Center — 121 West Lincoln
Sapulpa Indian Community Center — 1020 N. Brown
McIntosh District
Checotah Indian Community Center — 500 Owens
Eufaula Indian Community Center — 800 Forest Ave.
Hanna Indian Community Center — City Hall
Yardeka Indian Community Center — 8 miles southeast of Henryetta
Muskogee District
Muskogee Indian Community Center — 111 S. Virginia
Okfuskee District
Okemah Indian Community Center — 1100 S. Woody Guthrie Street
Weleetka Indian Community Center — 602 S. Chickasaw
Okmulgee District
Dewar Indian Community Center — 212 Luella St.
Okmulgee Indian Community Center — 2700 N. Miami
Tulsa District
Glenpool Indian Community Center — 13839 S. Casper
Tulsa Indian Community Center • 8611 S. Union
Tukvpvtce District
Dustin Indian Community Center — Corner of Sparks and Broadway streets
Holdenville Indian Community Center — 224 E. Poplar
Wetumka Indian Community Center — 608 N. Creek
Wagoner District
Koweta Indian Community Center — At the intersection of Hwy 51 and Ben Lumpkin Road, go 1/4 mile north to four way stop, turn right and go 1/8 mile east

Creek ambassador returns from United Nations meeting

OKMULGEE — History was made recently when the Muscogee (Creek) Nation sent tribal citizen, Geri Wisener Foley, as an interim tribal ambassador to Geneva, Switzerland to attend the *Working Group of Indigenous Peoples*. The session, which is the 21st time the United Nations (UN) has held such an event, began on July 21 and ended July 25. This was the first time ever that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has had a representative at a UN meeting of this type.

Wisener's focus while at the sessions was on globalization and how Indigenous peoples can be better represented and heard in dealing with government to government issues.

"My trip to the U.N. was fruitful," said Wisener. "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has needed an ambassador because their were all kinds of issues being addressed at an International level involving Indigenous people and we (tribe) were not having an input on what was going to happen," said Wisener.

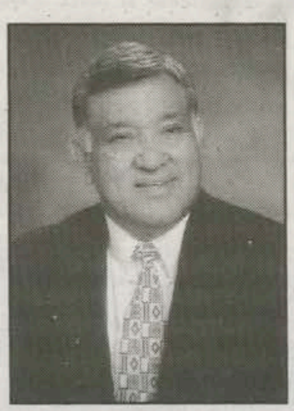
Pictured above are Geri Wisener Foley and Thomas Yahola, National Council representative. photo by Gerald Wofford

Wisener gave a report to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council on August 19.

During the sessions, she was chosen as a committee chair to run a caucus at next year's UN session, a position that Wisener will accept if granted by the tribal government.

Since Wisener's return, she has been contacted by the Pawnee, Iowa and Cherokee Tribes to give a presentation of how tribes can work in the UN.

From the Office of the Principal Chief... R. Perry Beaver



The year of 2003 is an election year for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I commend the candidates who have filed for office and their willingness and desire to serve their Nation. Elections are the universal way of choosing our legislative representatives and government leaders.

I encourage each of you to exercise your right to vote and be a part in choosing whom you feel will represent you, the citizen, while also benefiting the tribe as a whole. The future of 54,700 current citizens depends on the choices we will be making on September 20, 2003. Every vote counts, so take the time to meet the candidates when they are in your area, ask questions and let them know of your concerns.

According to the Election Board there are only 14,190 registered voters of the 41,198 over 18 years who are eligible to register to vote.

The deadline for precinct registration for the primary election is September 10, 2003 and the deadline for Absentee registration is August 28, 2003. Following the primary election, registration will reopen until October 29, 2003.

I also urge you to have your vote counted in non-tribal elections. Those of you in Tulsa County, I ask you to support the Vision 2025 project, which will assist Tulsa and Tulsa County in retaining jobs and funds improvements in Economic Development and tourism which will create jobs. *Mvto.*

Citizen pleased with television commercials

Editor:

I would like to commend the Muscogee Creek Nation for participating in the anti-Tobacco Campaign.

Their recent television commercials are very informative and tastefully done. I have never been a smoker and do not understand the desire or need to use tobacco. If these ads can deter even one person from using any form of tobacco, I would call that a success.

Congratulations on a job well done.

Debbie Wallace, Weleetka

CHR's express appreciation

Editor:

The Indian Health Fair/Summer Sizzler was held June 27th with approximately 231 people in attendance. The CHR Program would like to thank the Tulsa Creek Indian Community, TCIC Board Members, Debbie Ridge, Ramona Faulkner, and Kim Tulsa for all their support and help in planning. *Mvto*, also to all of those who came and supported us; the health care participants, CHR co-workers, vendors, Muscogee Creek Nation programs, Redstick Vision Alliance, Tulsa Indian Actors Workshop, Cherrah Quiett, Alfred Berryhill, the Harrison Family, and Monty Bunny and Charles Enlow. Creek Nation provided invaluable information. Thank you to Scott Robinson and the youth who encouraged the children with the jump rope demonstrations. Thank you to Chief Perry Beaver and 2nd Chief A.D. Ellis who came out to support us. A special thank you to Ben Watashe and the Lighthorse Explorers, who conducted the opening presentation flag ceremony and who also handled the emergency situation with professionalism clearing the area for the ambulance and fire truck.

Also, to the Health Professionals who responded to the emergency and handled the situation until the ambulance arrived. There were 231 participants that attended the Indian Health Fair/Summer Sizzler. We thank each person that came out and participated in this event. Your attendance helped make this event a success.

Etta Dickerson and Bonnie Jones, Okmulgee

Family enjoys 29th Annual Creek Nation Festival

Editor:

My family and I just attended our first festival. We particularly enjoyed the Blues Festival – Smilin' Vic, Black Hawk and even Julian B were wonderful even as hot as it was.

The food vendors were great with plenty of old favorites reasonably priced, fast service and even a tent and tables and benches to enjoy our sofke and fry bread.

I did not enjoy seeing our people dropping trash everywhere you see litter like that at Estv-Hvkte's fair but our people should show more conscience. We should set an example.

I was also disappointed in all the "made in China and Taiwan neon stuff." Those booths crowded out such artists as Jon Tiger and Jackson "Crazy Horse." Maybe they have a place at any modern gathering but I think they should be segregated from the traditional craftsmen. Let's show them respect.

Donna Crawford Foster, Catoosa

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello to all Creek citizens world wide. My opinion this month may appear shorter than usual and this is because of election time. I congratulate all Creeks who decided to file for one of the elected positions in our Creek Nation.

I know that sometimes we take credit for some tribal success by no one person or elected official can do anything alone. We must always work as a team, the National Council and the Chiefs' office. Pulling together we can move mountains, pulling apart we can move nothing. I urge all Creek citizens to register to vote and use your right to elect whoever you wish to represent you and your family as tribal leaders.

I also want to state that no person will be able to satisfy each of you. I have a sign in my office that says "Show me a person who tries to satisfy everyone, and I will show you a failure."

In closing what did you think about last month's newspaper and in color? Great job, Mvskoke Nation News department.

Mvto.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Lucas Taylor, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, feature writer/photographer
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the May 31, regular session.

Absent were: **Wilbur Gouge**; McIntosh District; **Larry Bible,** Tulsa District;

Second Speaker Roberft Huft, Tulsa District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

In order of business the Council:

• approved (23-0-0) Tribal Resolution 03-024, supporting the children and family services administration participation in the National Indian Child Welfare association child abuse and data in American Indian/Alaska Native communities project;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron,** Creek; **Phyllis Warrington,** Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Tom Pickering,** McIntosh; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Sandra Parish,** Muskogee; **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden,** Okfuskee **Dave Lewis,** Okmulgee; **Keeper Johnson,** Okmulgee; **George Almerigi,** Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters,** Okmulgee; **David Nichols,** Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Thomas Yahola,** Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields,** Tukvpvtce; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ronald Cleghorn,** Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley,** Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill,** Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (20-3-0) TR 03-038, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the demolition of the abandoned Oakdale school building;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; and **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved unanimously as amended (23-0-0) TR 03-045, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an agreement with B & B Fireworks for the operations of two temporary fireworks sales facilities on tribal trust land to benefit the five (5) chartered communities that currently exist and are located within the Okmulgee District (Duck Creek, Twin Hills, Okmulgee, Dewar, and Wilson);

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 03-046, endorsing Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee's registered nursing program;

• failed on the floor (6-17-0) TR 03-047, rescinding suspension of Okemah Indian Community Charter as implemented by the Office of the Principal Chief;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**; Wagoner; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (21-2-0) TR 03-048, amending TR 02-085 (a tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Master Plan) voting no were: **Jackson**, Okfuskee and **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• failed (6-17-0) TR 03-049, confirming the nomination of **Enus Wilson Jr.** as the gaming commissioner of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; Watson, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved unanimously (23-0-0) TR 03-051, recognizing a Muscogee (Creek) citizen for extraordinary employee of Creek Nation Muscogee Bingo Hall;

• approved (16-7-0) TR 03-052, confirming the nomination of **James F. Williams** to serve on the Muscogee Nation enterprise board of directors;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (13-10-0) NCA 03-046, revitalization and establishing the Mvskoke language division;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

the council recessed for an hour,

absent were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; and **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved as amended (16-3-0) NCA 03-066, authorizing a special appropriation for renovation of the Claude Cox omniplex;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee;

the council recessed for an hour;

absent were: **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; and **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved unanimously as amended (21-0-0) NCA 03-112, authorizing a special appropriation to **Ryan Hicks** for comfort needs during his cancer illness;

representatives **Aaron,** Creek and **Golden,** Okfuskee arrived;

representatives **Pickering**, McIntosh **Johnson**, Okmulgee and **Wind,** Muskogee were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

representative **Lowe,** Tukvpvtce was excused;

• approved as amended (14-5-0) NCA 03-067, amending NCA 01-183 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending certain laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, repealing certain laws and adding new law concerning public gaming for purpose of codification in Title 21 of the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation), relating to procedures for the appointment of members to the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; and **Peters**, Okmulgee;

• approved (20-1-0) NCA 03-076, amending NCA 99-22 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation creating the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal trade & commerce authority, establishing a board of trustees of the authority and defining the purpose and powers of the authority and its board of trustees), as amended by NCA 02-108, as amended by NCA 03-011, to allow the tribal trade and commerce authority to hire outside legal counsel;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee;

representative **Johnson** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote

• approved (19-2-0) NCA 03-077, amending NCA 99-10 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation creating a business enterprise of the Muscogee Nation, establishing a board of directors of the enterprise and defining the purpose and powers of the enterprise and its board of director(s), as amended by NCA 02-107, as amended by NCA 03-012, to allow the Muscogee Nation business enterprise to hire outside legal counsel;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee and **Jackson**, Okfuskee;

representative **Johnson** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote

• approved (21-0-0) NCA 03-080, authorizing an agreement and appropriating funds to the city of Weleetka to pave the parking lot for the Weleetka Indian community and two streets surrounding the community center;

representatives **Johnson** and **Jackson** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (20-0-0) NCA 03-085, appropriating a "safe and stable families" grant match for children and family services and authorizing expenditure;

representatives **Cleghorn** and **Jackson** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved (16-4-0) NCA 03-092, establishing a tribal partnerships public relations fund and appropriating funds for said purpose;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; and **Golden**, Okfuskee;

representatives **Cleghorn** and **Jackson** was out of seat at the time of casting of vote;

• approved as amended (20-0-0) NCA 03-093, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation environmental services department;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 03-094, amending NCA 02-174 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a supplemental appropriation for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Human Development vocational tribal and incentive grant program fiscal year 2003 budget);

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 03-098, authorizing a special appropriation to the Moving Wall;

• approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 03-099, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the Muscogee

please see **National Council**..., page 4

Business Enterprise secures contract with Air Force

OKMULGEE — The Small Business Administration approved a contract between the United States Air Force, Altus Air Force Base and the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise (MNBE), a tribally owned 8 (a).

The contract award is a Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity Construction Contract for 5 years for approximately $25 million, with the option to extend the contract for 3 months for a total of 66 months.

Work to be performed will consist of renovation and repair of buildings and residential construction at Altus AFB. Michael Nalley, the General Manager for MNBE stated that Second Chief A.D. Ellis, Chairman of the Board for MNBE, Principal Chief Perry Beaver, Speaker Wilbur Gouge and the National Council had a huge impact on the vision of winning work with the U.S. Government.

"We have worked closely with Second Chief A.D. Ellis, our Chairman, to layout a strategy for winning business with the U.S. Government and with agencies and military installations in Oklahoma for the sole purpose of building a business that the citizens of the Muscogee Nation are proud of and will create career opportunities for our citizens," states Nalley.

John Crow Foundation to offer DUI classes

DUSTIN — The John Crow IV Memorial Foundation has established and will be offering DUI classes and assessments in Hughes, McIntosh, Okmulgee, Okfuskee, and Seminole counties.

The classes and assessments are certified by the State of Oklahoma. The prices for these services are set by State law. The funds that individuals pay for assessments and classes are paid to the John Crow Foundation, who then pays a percentage to the State of Oklahoma. A percentage is kept to provide in kind dollars to cover the costs associated with partially funded grants.

Classes are currently offered in Dustin and at the Eufaula Youth Shelter. A 10 hour class will be offered in Okmulgee beginning in the month of September in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Court conference room. The 10 hour classes are scheduled to run until January. Both 10 hour and 24 hour classes are scheduled to begin in January.

For more information on dates and locations or to make an appointment for a DUI assessment, call 1 (888) 447-1608.

Muscogee Nation school clothing assistance program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of Child Care will be accepting requests for applications for school clothing assistance beginning Aug. 18.

All requests for applications will be taken over the phone only. No on-site applications will be accepted. First come, first serve and all information is confidential. Applications will be returned if all documents are not submitted. Interoffice applications will not be accepted from tribal employees.

Copies of citizenship card(s) must be submitted for all children. CDIB's will not be accepted. No exceptions!

To apply, call 1-800-205-3705 or (918) 758-1463. All applications will be processed by mail.

Roads program recognized for work in Okmulgee County

by Joshua Slane

Roads program staff making final preparations for installation of a tin horn on a rural road in Okmulgee County.
photo by Joshua Slane

OKMULGEE — Ben Chaney, transportation planner, and Jack Chaney, road engineer, along with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Indian Reservation Roads Program, were recently recognized for thier efforts in Okmulgee County.

"The county commissioners of Okmulgee county provided us with plaques in recognition for our efforts in working with the county for mutual benefit," explained Ben Chaney.

The roads program completed contruction work on roads throughout Okmulgee County, such as Bixby Road, Furgerson (Skelly) Road, Hectorville Road, Sharp Road, and Arbeka Road.

Okmulgee County is not the only county to benefit from the Chaney brother's work and tribal funding.

Recently, Chief Beaver, and the Hughes count commissioners, signed a million dollar contract to reconstruct and resurface 6.1 miles of Yeager West Road in Hughes County.

Eufaula Indian community to hold monthly meeting

EUFAULA — The Eufaula Indian Community will hold their monthly meeting on Aug. 28 at 7 p.m.

All candidates filing for office are invited to come and speak at the meeting.

For more information contact the community center at (918) 689-5066.

Springfield Methodist will hold breakfast and garage sale

OKEMAH — The Springfield Methodist Church will hold a breakfast and garage sale on Sept. 6 at the Okemah Community Center beginning at 7 a.m.

All you can eat breakfast is $5. Children under 12 pay $2.50.

Reunions

Marshall Reunion

WETUMKA — The late Lewis Marshall and Mandy Marshall Reunion is scheduled for Sept. 1 at the Wetumla Indian Baptist Church.

Those attending are asked to bring a door prize, gift, 12 pack of pop, and potato chips. For more information contact Betty Scott at (918) 623-2376 or Lydia Fish at (405) 672-4330.

Cinda Hill Reunion

OKMULGEE — The Cinda Hill Reunion is scheduled for Labor Day week and weekend.

Campers are welcome and will be sheltered at the Gary Ito Point at Dripping Springs.

Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish and chairs. For more information call (918) 758-4362 or (405) 943-7944.

Watson Reunion

HENRYETTA — The Watson Reunion will be held at Nichols Park on Sept. 6 beginning at 10 a.m.

Relatives and friends: Louisa Watson Fields, Louise Byrd Barnett, Stella Wesley and John Watson are invited to attend.

Everyone attending is ask to bring a covered dish. For more information contact Richard Hicks at (918) 227-2915 or Pete Riley at (918) 241-3123.

National Council

continued from page 3

(Creek) Nation natural resource department for the purchase of a tractor and trailer;

- approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 03-100, authorizing a special appropriation to a Muscogee (Creek) citizen to attend a six credit summer Washington Leadership seminar for Washington Internship for Native students (WINS);
- approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 03-101, appropriating funds for the purchase of a sprung building that will be constructed and built onto the north side of the Creek Nation Okmulgee Casino's current gaming facility to provide extra floor space for additional electronic gaming machines;
- approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 03-102, establishing a driveway repair program under the tribal driveways program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;
- approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 03-103, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) citizen for the prelaw summer institute in Alburquerque, New Mexico;
- approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 03-104, authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H club to expend funds for the purchase of a livestock trailer;
- approved unanimously (22-0-0) NCA 03-109, authorizing the expenditure of a Bureau of Indian Affairs contract received by the division of tribal affairs for the replacement of fencing on Creek Nation Tribal Trust Lands located in McIntosh County, Oklahoma;
- approved (19-3-0) NCA 03-110, authorizing the expenditure of a Bureau of Indian Affairs contract received by the division of tribal affairs for the demolition of the abandoned Oakdale school building;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; and **Golden**, Okfuskee;

- approved unanimously as amended (22-0-0) NCA 03-113, authorizing a special appropriation to Semihoyv Givens for comfort needs during the last stages of leukemia;

Tribal administrator named to national committee

EUFAULA — Greg Anderson, Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory Administrator, has more than the local dormitory to concern himself with when it comes to educational issues after his recent appointment to a national education committee.

In a letter dated May 1 from the Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton, Anderson was appointed to serve on the Department of Interior's *No Child Left Behind* negotiated rulemaking committee, which is an advisory committee under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Anderson will represent the interests of the tribes served by Bureau funded schools. His appointment went into effect immediately.

"I feel it will be a great experience and opportunity to participate in the reform process at a high level," Anderson said. "It will be a privilege and an honor to represent education programs, such as the Eufaula Dormitory, as well as all programs and institutions nationwide that educate and care for Native American children."

The *No Child Left Behind* Act was one of the platforms President George W. Bush championed during the 2000 presidential election. Congress passed the bill in January 2002.

When the bill was signed into law, it required the Department of Interior to enter into a negotiated rulemaking with a committee of tribal and federal members to develop a recommendation for proposed regulations in several areas of Indian education.

The process of selection began a year ago with 25 members recently selected from tribes and federal entities nationwide.

"Nominees chosen for the negotiated rulemaking committee must make a commitment to attend committee meetings, participate in information gathering, negotiate in good faith, and follow Federal travel regulations," former Secretary of Interior Neal McCaleb stated a year ago.

The negotiated rulemaking committee will be responsible for making recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior regarding how the regulations need to be changed. The Secretary will consider the recommendations in developing the proposed rule.

Anderson had plenty of support from local officials in securing the position.

"I appreciate the confidence and assistance given to me by Congressman Brad Carson, former Congressman J.C. Watts, and the Creek Nation and Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma," Anderson said. "Their nominations and support for my participation were essential in my selection to the committee. Congressman Watts and Carson worked hard on the federal level to ensure that Oklahoma was represented and would have a voice in this process."

"I was reminded by friends in D.C. that this is the largest education reform plan in several decades and how fortunate I am to have been selected." he said. "The committee has to make sure that the right decisions are made for the improvement of education and that those decisions are made in the best interest of generations to follow. I realize this is a big challenge for all of us and I accepted this appointment with every intention of doing all I can to assist in bringing improvement to education."

The committee is expected to continue until April 2005 or until the committee provides its recommendation for proposed regulations.

Education

Okemah girl accepted as candidate

TULSA — Creek citizen Amber Miller of Okemah has been accepted as a candidate in the 2003 Miss Oklahoma National Preteen Program. The state program will be held at the Hilton Southern Hill on Aug. 29 through 31. Miller is the first preteen to be selected from the Okfuskee County area.

Miller

Miss National Preteen is designed to recognize outstanding young ladies ages nine to 12.

The selection process is based on school grades, awards, honors and participation in outside activities.

Candidates are judged on academics/achievements, poise and presentation in gown, personality, and ability to communicate and express themselves during an interview with the judges. There is also optional talent in public speaking, sportswear, and photogenic events.

Those selected will represent Oklahoma as Miss National Preteen in Orlando, Florida.

She is the daughter of John and Carol Miller of Okemah.

Her maternal grandparents are Franklin and Norma Jean Beaver of Okemah and paternal grandparents are John and Betty Miller of Overland, Kansas.

Bible graduates from Preston high school

PRESTON — Tribal citizen Balynda Renee Bible graduated from Preston High School on May 13.

Bible

She is the daughter of Teresa Bible of Glenpool and the granddaughter of Norma Bible of Preston.

Her great-grandparents are the late Mabel Hill and Wiley Sampson.

Citizen receives academic scholarship

NEWNAN, GA. — Jamie Bruner, a 2003 graduate of East Coweta High School in Georgia, received an academic scholarship from the State of Georgia for maintaining a straight A average.

Bruner

Bruner signed to play women's volleyball at West Georgia State University.

While in high school, she won a state championship with her team, setting individual state records and being named defensive player of the year for two consecutive years. This past season she recorded 160 aces and 273 kills in 90 games.

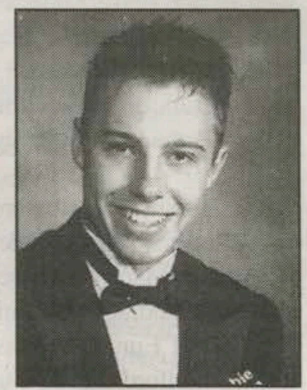
She is a native of Holdenville and now resides in Georgia. Jamie is the daughter of Chris Bruner and Ronda Yancey.

Paternal grandparents are Billye Bruner and the late Eugene Bruner of Holdenville.

Her great grandparents are the late Roman Bruner of Carson.

Crosier given scholars awards

PAULS VALLEY — Robbie Crosier, a 2003 graduate from Pauls Valley, received the Conoco Phillips Spirit Scholars Program Award of $3,000.


Crosier

As a scholar recipient, Crosier will be working with mentors from the University of Oklahoma, as well as Conoco Phillips.

He will be expected to apply for internship and other career enhancement opportunities through Conoco Phillips.

The scholarship is a renewal per year and will be evaluated upon successful completion of an internship, involvement in the scholarship program, and grade point average.

Crosier is the son of Robin and Bob Phillips of Pauls Valley.

His grandparents are Collene and James Jones of Dustin and Raymond and Novella Crosier of Okmulgee.

Birthdays

Birthday celebration held for Ramirez

BRISTOW — Izaias Sky Ramirez celebrated his first birthday on January 21.

Ramirez

He is the son of Carlos and Mandi Ramirez of Bristow.

Maternal grandparents are David and Ellen Lena of Okemah. Paternal grandparents are Antonio and Estella Ramirez of Karnes City, Texas.

He is the great grandson of the late Josephine Morgan of Morris.

Izaias has four uncles: Oscar, Jose, Sonte, and Tyler and three cousins: Justus, Tessa and Elias.

IDA BARNETT

EUFAULA — Funeral services for Ida Jean Barnett were held June 19th at First Baptist Church with Revs. Eddie Lindsey and John Johnson officiating.

Ida was born to James Moore and Mary Barnett on July 10, 1952 in Phoenix, Arizona. She graduated from Muskogee High School in 1970. Barnett was a member of the First Indian Baptist Church and accepted the Lord and was baptized at the First Baptist Church in Los Angeles in October 1962.

Her hobbies include sewing, beading and fishing, but her favorite was entertaining children. She taught Sunday school for two and three year olds for many years. During vacation bible school she taught the arts and crafts class. Ida served as the church organist for six years.

Barnett was preceded in death by her parents.

Survivors include: two sisters, Ella Bailey and Magdalen Nelson of Muskogee; one brother, Freeman Loga Mitchell of Okay; aunts; uncles; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were: Freeman, Richmond, and Jackie Mitchell; Anthony and G. Micco Wamego; Michael Hope; Cate and Jonathan Nelson. Honorary pallbearers were: David, Lincoln, Jack, Timothy, Brandon, and Bradley Barnett; Louis, Dean, Leon, Benny, and Mark Lena.

BUCKNER BUCK

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Buckner Sock Buck were held June 23 at Many Springs Baptist Church.

Buckner was born August 18, 1928 in Holdenville to Nathan and Alice McCosar Buck. He was a lifetime Holdenville resident, excluding the nine years he spent in Chicago, Illinois. Buck married Linda Harjo on January 23, 1967. He attended Spaulding Schools and Haskell Institute. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and a member of Many Springs Baptist Church since his baptism on July 4, 1941.

Buck enjoyed attending gospel singings, camping, OU Football, and spending time with his grandchildren. He retired from the Navel Depot in McAlester 1976 and later from the Covey Corporation.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; daughter, Pamela Jean Buck; and grandson, Cody Buck.

Survivors include: wife, Linda; son, Zack; daughters, Angela of Caldwell, Texas, Candi and Kay, both of Holdenville, Janet Martin of Chicago, Illinois, and Carol Wolfchief of Seminole; nine grandchildren; brothers, Nathan, Blackie, and Corney, all of Holdenville; sisters, Leona Brooks and Margaret Siegrist, both of Holdenville; aunts; and seven great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and many friends.

Interment was at Buck Family Cemetery.

COWETA CHISHOLM

EUFAULA— Funeral services for Coweta Chisholm were held at Gregg Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Birdcreek Phillips officiating, assisted by Rev. Richard Carr.

Coweta was born September 14, 1914 at Raiford, Oklahoma to Parley and Sally Fixico Tarloshaw Chisholm. In 1928 he married Rosie Harris at Raiford. He was employed by Palmer's Gas Station for 25 years before his retirement. His church affiliation was the Little Coweta Baptist Church.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; wife, Rosie; brother; sister; granddaughter; great-great grand-daughter; and two nephews.

Survivors include: five children, Betty Jean Lane and Nancy Chisholm, both of Stidham, Ann Remis of Wetumka, Nell Lusty of Yukon, and Barney Chisholm of El Reno; a nephew; twenty-one grandchildren; twenty-four great grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: E.J. Poole; Shawn and Tommy Remis; Anthony, Ronald, and Donald Chisholm. Honorary pallbearers were: Sam Remis; David Lusty; Barney Chisholm; Randy Leeper; and Leslie Lane.

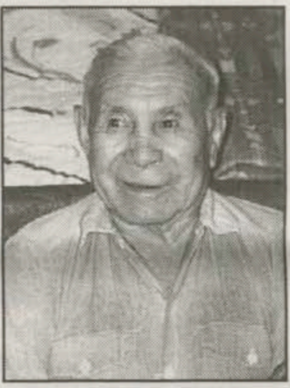
Interment was at Hanna Cemetery.

EUNAH GIVENS

HANNA — Funeral services for Eunah Givens were held June 14 at Hillabee Baptist Church with Rev. Johnson Roberts officiating.

He was born September 17, 1918 near Hanna to William and Anna McGilbray Givens.

Mr. Givens served in the United States Army from 1942 to 1945. He was a P.F.C., a lineman with the Field Artillery of the 10th Army division.


E. Givens

Preceding him in death include: his parents; four brothers, Robert, Yahola, Charley, and Harper Givens; grandson, Benjamin Givens Jr.; and granddaughter, Semvthoye Givens.

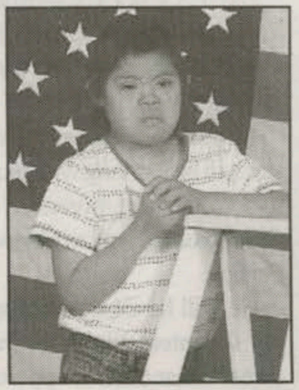
Survivors include: four sons, Jesse, Benjamin, Sonny James, and Michael Givens, all of Wetumka; daughter, Fannie Hobia of Wetumka; fifteen grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Pallbearers were: Brian, Gary, Sonny James Jr., and William Givens; Jeremiah Hobia; and Yahola Buck. Honorary pallbearers were James, Choctaw, and Duane Givens and Edmond Barnett Jr.

Interment was at Hanna Cemetery.

SEMVTHOYE GIVENS

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Semvthoye Anna Givens were held June 12 at Sand Creek Baptist Church with Pastor Harry Anderson and Rev. Bill Hobia officiating.


S. Givens

Semvthoye was born July 13, 1993 in Okmulgee to Benjamin E. and Martha Jane Hobia Givens.

Preceding her in death were: grandmothers, Agnes Wesley Hobia and Mary Dewochee Givens; grandfathers, Louis Hobia and Eunah Givens; uncles, Melford and Elliotte Hobia; and one brother, Benjamin Givens Jr.

Survivors include: her parents; two brothers, Louis and Brian Givens of Wetumka; sisters, Justina and Mary Givens of Wetumka; eight uncles; eight aunts; two nieces; five nephews; cousins and friends.

Pallbearers were Amos Yahola Jr., Brian Givens, Daniel Coachman, and Harry Harjo.

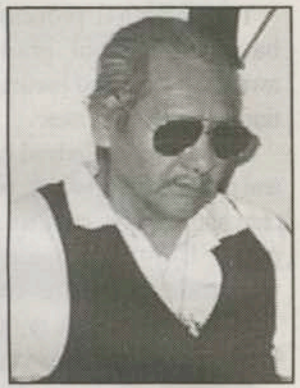
Interment was at the Sand Creek Cemetery.

WILLIE PROCTOR JR.

HANNA — Funeral services for Willie Proctor Jr. were held June 6 at Trenton Church with Revs. Richmond Carr and Charley Mitchell officiating.

He was born April 26, 1949 to Willie and Fannie Tiger Proctor Sr. in Hanna.

As a boy, Willie attended school at Seneca Indian School in the Pryor area. He made Tulsa his home for most of his life. He liked to listen to music, watch TV and loved being around his children.


Proctor

Preceding him in death were his parents and brother, Sandy Proctor.

Survivors include: sons, Willie III of the home and Nicholas of Tulsa; daughters, Etta, Fannie Dorrough and Chrystal, all of Tulsa, and Emma of the home; sisters, Irene Thompson of Okemah and Yannah Schrum of Dustin; fifteen grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter; and a host of other relatives and dear friends.

Pallbearers include: Teddy James; Joel Husman; Kelly Pressler; Joe Domebo; Louis Morgan; and Ira Tyler. Honorary pallbearers were Eddie Fisher, Manuel Noriega, John Waterdown.

Interment was at the Proctor Family Cemetery in Hanna.

PRISCILLA THUNDER-NGUYEN

MUSKOGEE — Funeral services for Priscilla Ann Thunder-Nguyen were held March 21 at Memorial Park Cemetery with Kelly Payne was officiating.

She was born November 26, 1973 in Tulsa to Susan D. Smith. Priscilla went to school in Muskogee, Ft. Gibson, and St. Paul, Minnesota.

Thunder-Nguyen

Nguyen was baptized as an infant at White Eagle Methodist Church by Rev. Thomas Roughface and attended Boston Avenue Baptist Church in Muskogee and Mazakute Indian Church in St. Paul, Minn.

Preceding her in death were: Stanley G. and Alice D. Smith, Rev. James and Mae Mitchell.

Survivors include: sons, Kyle Cheyenne of St. Paul, Minnesota and Mekko Savanny Nay of Muskogee and Thunder Nguyen of San Jose, California; brother, Ty Clapton Kieger; mother, Susan D. Smith Kieger, both of St. Paul, Minnesota; grandmother, Jeannette L. Smith; aunt; and uncles.

Spotlight

> "Yesterday, Dec. 7, 1941 - a date which will live in infamy - the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan." —Franklin D. Roosevelt

Creek veterans honored at Pearl Harbor

by Gerald Wofford

The beginning of the Second World War marked many changes in the lives of Muscogee (Creek) citizens. For Charlie Coker and Jorene Anderson Coker, change was also imminent.

Charlie was growing up in Paden, Oklahoma while Jorene was a student at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas.

The weather on December 7, 1941 was relatively mild for a winter's day. Jorene remembers being in her college dorm room listening to her favorite radio station. All of sudden the announcer stopped the music and announced, *the Japanese have attacked Pearl Harbor!*.

Jorene recalls "I didn't know where Pearl Harbor was, all I was concerned about is why they would interrupt my program to announce such an event."

Jorene and Charlie Coker proudly display their certificates commemorating their visit to the USS Arizona Memorial Museum.
photo by Gerald Wofford

The seriousness of the matter would become more clearer to Jorene and the rest of the young Indian students at a special assembly organized for the next day. It was at the assembly that the Haskell students heard President Franklin D. Roosevelt's speech on the radio. The President's famous, *December 7, 1941...a date which will live in infamy,* speech marked the beginning of the U.S. declaring war on Japan and Germany.

Pictured above, the USS Shaw explodes during the Japanese air raid.

Jorene and Charlie, like many Native American people nationwide, would enlist in the military and see the war first hand.

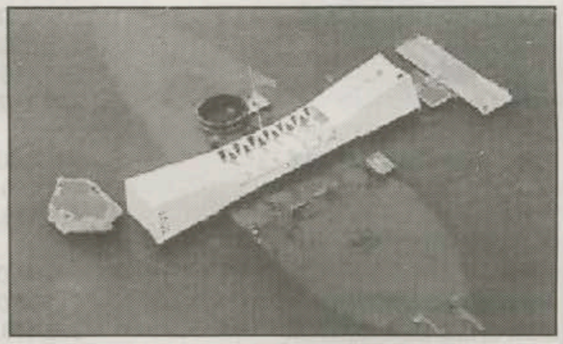
Four years of fighting, the surrender of Japan and Germany, and millions of lives lost would be the end result of World War II. But for the U.S. involvement, it all began on that quiet Sunday morning in December of 1941, at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.

The Battleship U.S.S. Arizona was one of the ships lost during the Japanese raid. The ship rests in 38 feet of water and was officially stricken from the active list in 1942. Although sunken below the beautiful waters of the Pacific Ocean, the body of the ship now serves as a base for a memorial honoring the lives of those lost that eventful day.

In tribute to the American fighting men killed during the attack on Pearl Harbor, the National Ensign flies continuously from a flagpole mounted to the battleship. During hours of darkness, the flag is illuminated.

Special permission was granted by the Secretary of the Navy to fly the United States flag over the ship.

Now, the Navy Region in Hawaii, along with the National Park Service and the Arizona Memorial Museum Association, has offered an opportunity to have a U.S. flag fly on the flagpole and present a certificate to veterans who contact the Museum about the details. A family member, Charla Rudesill, who is married to Navy Lt. Commander Mark B. Rudesill, made the request in Jorene and Charlie's honor.



Pictured above is the USS Arizona Memorial Museum.

On November 4, 2002 at 10 a.m., a U.S. flag was raised and lowered for Charlie Coker. On June 19 of this year, a flag was raised and lowered for Jorene at 8:40 a.m. Both were raised and lowered on the anniversary of their discharge from the military. Charlie was in the Army Air Force from 1942 to 1945 and Jorene was in the Navy from 1943 to 1946.

"It was exciting to have such an honor," said Jorene. Charlie felt the same, "its great to be remembered this way."

Muscogee (Creek) Nation quarterly financial statement

Quarter ending June 30, 2003 Prepared by the office of the controller

In accordance with National Council Act 88-70, section 112, as amended by NCA 89-37, the following information for the period ending June 30, 2003 discloses the receipts, budget, encumbrances, expenditure, and balance for all funds under the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The **receipts** are dollar amounts received for the period ending June 30, 2003. The figures include, but are not limited to, federal dollars received on grants or contracts, interest earned during the quarter, and revenues generated by the tribe. The total dollars spent represent the amount spent to date for the second quarter ending June 30, 2003.

The **budget** *figure represents the amounts* approved in the comprehensive annual budget.

The **encumbered** amounts include figures derived from outstanding purchase orders at the end of the year.

Expended amounts state the total amount that has been spent for each department, within that fund.

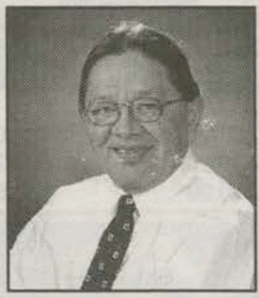
The **balance** figures reflect the net available for each department at the end of June 30, 2003.

Any questions regarding this report may be directed to the office of the controller at (918) 756-8700, ext. 250.

PROGRAM	BUDGETS	ENCUMBERED	EXPENDED	BALANCE
MCN LEGAL DEFENSE FUND	261,208.00	0.00	0.00	261,208.00
TREASURY	4,694.00	0.00	2,404.00	2,290.00
LITIGATION & LOBBYING	65,765.00	55,824.00	9,941.00	0.00
GENERAL TAXES & LICENSES	1,903,584.00	27,762.00	1,375,411.00	500,411.00
MOTOR FUEL TAXES	722,384.00	4,500.00	468,934.00	248,950.00
ADMINISTRATION/INDIRECT	3,082,345.00	47,399.00	2,029,054.00	1,005,892.00
CREEK NATION BINGO	10,446,730.00	361,017.00	5,030,301.00	5,055,412.00
CN PERMANENT FUND	544,601.00	21,578.00	163,732.00	359,291.00
TOM JOHNSON PERM FUND	0.00	0.00	55,308.00	(55,308.00)
CULTURAL PRESERVATION	2,182.00	0.00	0.00	2,182.00
CODIFICATION	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
4-H CLUB	10,754.00	0.00	6,289.00	4,465.00
READING IS FUNDAMENTAL	1,895.00	0.00	1,890.00	5.00
HENSSLER ASSET MGMT	0.00	0.00	13,613.00	(13,613.00)
TRIBAL BUDGET	269,613.00	8,240.00	155,720.00	105,653.00
MCN FLAGS & ETC	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MOTOR VEHICLE	1,764,582.00	682,447.00	654,167.00	427,968.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	**19,180,337.00**	**1,208,767.00**	**9,966,764.00**	**8,004,806.00**
DEPT OF LABOR:				
WIA-TITLE I	1,014.00	0.00	1,014.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE I '01	5,199.00	0.00	5,199.00	0.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '01	12,481.00	1,071.00	11,410.00	0.00
WIA-TITLE I '02	548,841.00	1,175.00	488,692.00	58,974.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '02	88,036.00	1,387.00	86,089.00	560.00
WIA-SUMMER YOUTH '03	488,038.00	5,729.00	105,668.00	376,641.00
WELFARE TO WORK	6,410.00	0.00	5,755.00	655.00
WELFARE TO WORK '99	1,656.00	0.00	100.00	1,556.00
TOTAL DEPT OF LABOR	**1,151,675.00**	**9,362.00**	**703,927.00**	**438,386.00**
HOUSING & URBAN DEV:				
HUD-NAHASDA '00	6,372,586.00	157.00	953,877.00	5,418,552.00
HUD-SPAULPA CLINIC	750,000.00	316,327.00	433,673.00	0.00
HUD-ROSS '01	96,231.00	0.00	60,110.00	36,121.00
HUD-NAHASDA '01	13,168,232.00	8,218.00	2,793,949.00	10,366,065.00
HUD-DRUG ELIMINATION	83,967.00	0.00	83,967.00	0.00
HUD-FOOD DIST. BLDG	750,000.00	573,807.00	59,782.00	116,411.00
HUD-NAHASDA '02	17,247,188.00	6,688.00	209,141.00	17,031,359.00
HUD-NAHASDA '98	1,214,308.00	0.00	1,214,308.00	0.00
HUD-NAHASDA '99	3,465,113.00	0.00	2,557,907.00	907,206.00
TOTAL HUD:	**43,147,625.00**	**905,197.00**	**8,366,714.00**	**33,875,714.00**
DEPT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SVC:				
CCDBG MANDATORY '01	339,733.00	17.00	338,588.00	1,128.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '01	28,342.00	0.00	28,342.00	0.00
LIHEAP '02	5,911.00	0.00	5,911.00	0.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '02	189,842.00	1,589.00	171,813.00	16,440.00
CCDBG DISCRETIONARY '02	682,444.00	4,281.00	520,478.00	157,685.00
CCDBG MANDATORY '02	841,528.00	5,165.00	508,171.00	328,192.00
HEAD START '02	535,275.00	0.00	471,298.00	63,977.00
TITLE IV-B '02	154,240.00	0.00	129,577.00	24,663.00
FAMILY VIOLENCE '02	243,214.00	13,808.00	136,691.00	92,715.00
LIHEAP '03	135,620.00	1,133.00	103,960.00	30,527.00
FAMILY PRESERVATION '03	227,111.00	0.00	0.00	227,111.00
CCDBG-DISCRETIONARY '03	1,526,073.00	10,017.00	177,035.00	1,339,021.00
CCDBG - MANATORY '03	2,545,476.00	22,724.00	539,674.00	1,983,078.00
HEADSTART '03	2,020,320.00	47,361.00	1,052,470.00	920,489.00
TITLE IV-B '03	245,445.00	0.00	0.00	245,445.00
TOTAL DHHS	**9,720,574.00**	**106,095.00**	**4,184,008.00**	**5,430,471.00**
DEPT OF AGRICULTURE:				
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '02	5,120.00	0.00	5,120.00	0.00
FOOD DISTRIBUTION '03	414,000.00	2,120.00	274,187.00	137,693.00
TOTAL USDA	**419,120.00**	**2,120.00**	**279,307.00**	**137,693.00**
PROGRAM INCOME:				
FEMA	4,326.00	0.00	4,326.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY	41,593.00	965.00	1,699.00	38,929.00
MCN CHILD DEV. CENTER	516,446.00	618.00	265,857.00	249,971.00
USDA HEADSTART REIMBURSE	107,228.00	9,107.00	72,253.00	25,868.00
EUFAULA DORM ACTIVITY FUND	33,507.00	959.00	14,158.00	18,390.00
ELECTION BOARD PROG INC	23,096.00	0.00	0.00	23,096.00
COMMUNICATIONS REVOLVING	3,925.00	0.00	1,924.00	2,001.00
GAMING PROGRAM INCOME	29,000.00	3,551.00	16,105.00	9,344.00
CITIZENSHIP BOARD PROG INC	10,425.00	0.00	10,469.00	(44.00)
FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROG. INC.	1,024.00	825.00	0.00	199.00

TRIBAL OVERVIEW HISTORY	10,194.00	0.00	10,194.00	0.00
LIGHTHORSE PROG. INC.	3,686.00	0.00	0.00	3,686.00
TOTAL PROGRAM INCOME	**784,450.00**	**16,025.00**	**396,985.00**	**371,440.00**
DEPT OF EDUCATION:				
LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC	0.00	0.00	225.00	(225.00)
LIBRARY SERVICE BASIC '03	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
TOTAL DOE	**4,000.00**	**0.00**	**225.00**	**3,775.00**
DEPT OF INTERIOR:				
SELF-GOVERNANCE COMPACT	4,733,419.00	36,673.00	2,853,815.00	1,842,931.00
DOI-ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP	8,478.00	0.00	902.00	7,576.00
EUFAULA DORM '00	261,264.00	200.00	81,005.00	180,059.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV.'00	22,932.00	0.00	22,932.00	0.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '01	14,810.00	0.00	11,250.00	3,560.00
EUFAULA DORM '01	568,457.00	0.00	222,198.00	346,259.00
TRANSPORTATION IMPROV '01	78,052.00	0.00	29,770.00	48,282.00
LAMAR ROAD	2,400.00	0.00	0.00	2,400.00
KELLYVILLE ROAD	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
LITTLE CUSSETH CHURCH RD	157,389.00	0.00	0.00	157,389.00
OKEMAH SCHOOL ROAD	398,506.00	20,066.00	335,782.00	42,658.00
THEWARLE CHURCH ROAD	188,689.00	141,117.00	5,267.00	42,305.00
PORTER ROAD	135,752.00	0.00	10,564.00	125,188.00
OLD BIXBY ROAD	803,712.00	11,528.00	736,337.00	55,847.00
SALEM ROAD	156,323.00	2,451.00	60,978.00	92,894.00
SKELLY/HASKELL	702,573.00	95,000.00	6,025.00	601,548.00
METHODIST CHURCH ROAD	192,334.00	0.00	188,567.00	3,767.00
HECTORVILLE ROAD	1,284,685.00	0.00	1,433.00	1,283,252.00
SUMMIT SOUTH ROAD	198,094.00	192,277.00	2,698.00	3,119.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '02	5,756.00	0.00	5,756.00	0.00
JOM '02	478,702.00	1,576.00	421,050.00	56,076.00
EUFAULA DORM '02	1,480,160.00	29,489.00	563,211.00	887,460.00
JOM EARLY CHILDHOOD '03	13,697.00	0.00	6,313.00	7,384.00
JOHNSON O'MALLEY '03	959,921.00	8,341.00	284,852.00	666,728.00
OAKDALE SCHOOL BLDG	24,000.00	0.00	0.00	24,000.00
MCINTOSH FENCING	4,183.00	0.00	0.00	4,183.00
CALVIN NORTH ROAD	1,731,488.00	1,714,173.00	337.00	16,978.00
STIDHAM ROAD	450,000.00	450,000.00	0.00	0.00
ARBEKA ROAD	2,172,620.00	2,137,795.00	20,426.00	14,399.00
KELLYVILLE PROJECT	3,245,064.00	48,000.00	152,551.00	3,044,513.00
EUFAULA DORM '99	34,734.00	0.00	4,550.00	30,184.00
MONTEZUMA PROJECT	44,234.00	0.00	1,638.00	42,596.00
TOTAL DEPT OF INTERIOR	**20,557,428.00**	**4,888,686.00**	**6,030,207.00**	**9,638,535.00**
DEPT OF JUSTICE:				
VICTIM'S ASSISTANCE	28,222.00	0.00	15,088.00	13,134.00
DRUG COURT	98,022.00	50.00	39,883.00	58,089.00
TRIBAL RESOURCES COP	57,846.00	57,846.00	0.00	0.00
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	132,637.00	239.00	37,974.00	94,424.00
EPA	40,199.00	0.00	5,009.00	35,190.00
TOTAL DEPT OF JUSTICE	**356,926.00**	**58,135.00**	**97,954.00**	**200,837.00**
CAPITAL PROJECTS:				
SAPULPA CLINIC-ICDBG	766,271.00	0.00	0.00	766,271.00
MUSKOGEE TRAVEL PLAZA	749,115.00	0.00	421,640.00	327,475.00
TRAVEL PLAZA ENTERPRISE	0.00	0.00	520,427.00	(520,427.00)
TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECTS	**1,515,386.00**	**0.00**	**942,067.00**	**573,319.00**
ENTERPRISE FUND:				
MUSKOGEE OFFICE BLDG	1,153,681.00	19,400.00	1,129,557.00	4,724.00
TRIBAL AGRICULTURE PROG.	9,483.00	0.00	200.00	9,283.00
ROADS EQUIPMENT POOL	318,756.00	53,507.00	57,747.00	207,502.00
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUND	**1,481,920.00**	**72,907.00**	**1,187,504.00**	**221,509.00**
TRUST & AGENCY FUND:				
C.N. TAXES & FRINGE	0.00	0.00	365.00	(365.00)
C.N. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	0.00	0.00	6,583.00	(6,583.00)
TOTAL TRUST & AGENCY FUND	**0.00**	**0.00**	**6,948.00**	**(6,948.00)**
INTERNAL SERVICE:				
ROAD FORCE ACCOUNT	810,106.00	20,193.00	290,168.00	499,745.00
TRIBAL- REAL PROP & FAC.	1,707,586.00	37,034.00	1,244,823.00	425,729.00
TRIBAL- PROPERTY & SUPPLY	76,356.00	1,510.00	84,464.00	(9,618.00)
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	73,000.00	4,500.00	61,019.00	7,481.00
SELF-INSURED HLTH FUND	0.00	0.00	1,802,200.00	(1,802,200.00)
TOTAL INTERNAL SERVICE	**2,667,048.00**	**63,237.00**	**3,482,674.00**	**(878,863.00)**
SCHOLARSHIPS:				
C.N. FOUND. SCHOLARSHIP	0.00	0.00	2,210.00	(2,210.00)
TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP	**0.00**	**0.00**	**2,210.00**	**(2,210.00)**
TOTALS	**100,986,489.00**	**14,597,825.00**	**67,807,894.00**	**116,900,211.00**

Principal Chief candidates

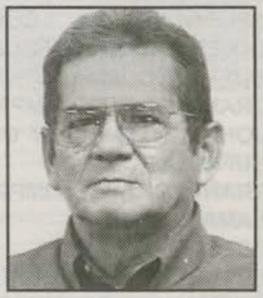


Name: Samuel S. Alexander
Age: 56
Residence: Wagoner
Family: spouse, Sharon; three daughters, Christy, Samantha, and Meagan; and one granddaughter, Cambria
Parents/grandparents: The late Rev. Louis M. and Myra Blanche Taylor Alexander; John and Hettie Alexander; and Sunda Taylor and Ella Scott McIntosh
Clan: Deer
Church: Montesoma Indian Baptist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Thlopthlocco

Experience: I've been a certified public accountant since 1979 and have enjoyed a 30 year career in public accounting that began after graduating from Northeastern State College in the late 60's. My employers and mentors were some of the best and taught me the importance of professionalism and quality of work. My private practice has an emphasis on small business accounting and taxation issues and is located in Wagoner. We've been blessed with opportunities to work with tribal government, large and small. In 1993, I became the first tax commissioner appointed by the principal chief and confirmed by the council. There was ongoing litigation with Oklahoma over a tobacco compact, and my office soon became the defendant for the Creek Nation. A compact was negotiated over the next 18 months to settle the dispute. The tax commission also performed the negotiated over the next 18 months to settle the dispute. The tax commission also performed the necessary legwork and research for the highly successful tribal motor vehicle legislation which was adopted on the last day of my term of office. Revenues from both of these programs continue to be an excellent source of funding. In 1998, I began serving on the gaming operations authority board and became chairman in 1999. Electronic technologic aids to the games known as bingo and pull-tabs were taken to new levels. Slowly, our bingo halls became casinos and the revenues shot up dramatically. Annual gaming revenues went from approximately $3.6 million in 1998 to in excess of $28 million in 2002, the largest such increase in tribal history.

Reason for seeking office: Roaming the grounds surrounding the traditional Indian churches throughout the Creek Nation and the values learned in such an environment provided a sound foundation. Elders from those churches were interested in tribal politics, and my father and uncle participated. We played as children at the Council House Museum in downtown Okmulgee during National Council sessions. Accordingly, I welcomed the opportunity to become tax commissioner where involvement on a daily basis permitted me the observe programs such as elderly nutrition and head start positively impact the lives of tribal citizens. The blanket of tribal sovereignty extended to chartered communities operating business enterprises whose profits directly benefited community members. Indians were working together and it was a pleasure to participate. Sound business ideas and techniques learned in the private sector over the years were successfully adapted to tribal governmental work. In regulating tobacco, a change in collection procedure doubled taxation revenues the first year it was in operation. In gaming, financial statement analysis reduced expenses and internal controls were strengthened to safeguard the assets, and planning became an essential. In the past, it was believed there was no place for a business expertise into more areas of tribal government. We are convinced higher education is critical to the success of future generations. We sincerely believe college education combined with 30 years experience in public accounting have adequately prepared me for the challenge of advancing our tribal government.

Editor's note: The following candidate profiles are published as they were submitted and have been edited only for spelling and capitalization. Candidates were given the following space limitations: Principal Chief, 500 words; second chief, 300 words; and national council representatives, 150 words. A large amount of space was allocated to candidates in the races for principal chief and second chief to insure that they received enough space for their maximum word limit. Because additional space was available, text exceeding the work limit was published to fill the text blocks.



Name: A.D. Ellis
Age: 67
Residence: Twin Hills
Family: spouse, Gail and six children
Parents/grandparents: Doolie and Nellie Bruner Ellis; and Billy and Adaline Bruner
Clan: Turtle
Church: Concharty United Methodist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Lochapauka

Experience: First elected to national council, Okmulgee district, 1990. I have served four consecutive terms. Currently serving as: second chief; and chairman of Trade and Commerce Authority and Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise government contract division.

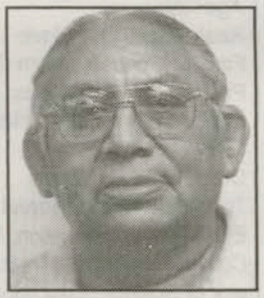
Reason for seeking office: Being principal chief of the Creek Nation is a huge responsibility and a chief should be hard working and dedicated to the Creek people. A great chief is only as good as the people who work with him. I will surround myself with the most educated, successful and proven Creek people available to move this nation forward. We must have and have begun to create a foundation to be a very aggressive force in Indian tribes. In October, the national council, by tribal law, made the second chief, chairman of the board of directors of the Trade and Commerce Authority and the Muscogee Nation Government Contract Division. Chief Beaver has allowed me to hire the first of many people who have already made giant steps in providing jobs and industry to our nation. In the past six months, our nation has purchased a high tech service company who is now performing work in Washington D.C. and Lockheed Martin Aircraft in Ft. Worth, Texas. Bidding on government and defense contracts, which could amount to one-hundred of millions of dollars for the first time in tribal history. Partnering with manufacturing firms to move manufacturing and jobs in our area and also considering local expansion into funeral and nursing homes. Gambling and smoke shops have been and are still great for this nation. They have provided hundreds of jobs for our Creek people, but I also want traditional and career type jobs so that our people can move into the mainstream of America where advancement and earnings are unlimited. Revenue and profits will boost benefits and better service for all programs, such as health, education, and welfare of all citizens. We must always provide for our elders, protect and educate our youth and give all Creek people the opportunity to live in a happy and caring family environment. A more detailed list of political platform will follow before the election. After four years as your second chief, I believe my reputation as a tribal leader and advocate of common people has spread throughout our nation and I pledge to only improve this image.

Name: Bill S. Fife
Age: 56
Residence: Dustin
Family: spouse, Mary; son, Jeff; daughter, Cinda; daughter-in-law, Thomasine; and four grandchildren
Parents: the late James and Carmen Fife
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Thlewarle Baptist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Tukvpvtce
Experience: Currently serving as tribal administrator for the Alabama Quassarte Tribal Town. Elected as National Council Representative for the Okfuskee District for four terms and principal chief for one term. Served as director of Tribal Affairs for 10 years during the Cox administration. Served as Bacone's acting president for eight months and as executive vice-president during Bacone's transition from a two-year to a four-year college for three years. Assisted with renovating of the entire college campus, building three new dormitories and increasing enrollment form 300 to over 1100 students.
Reason for seeking office: I am a candidate for principal chief for basic and positive reasons. With more than 20 years service in tribal government, 15 years in the private sector, six years in the USPS, and a being a Vietnam Veteran, I am prepared for this job. Some of my goals are to:
• *provide leadership to reform our health care systems.* The current system has spanned three administrations, our people still suffer from poor health. Using teams of health professional, tribal citizens, administrators, and others, we must focus on finding ways to take our system to the next level of health care improvement using cutting edge technology supported by traditional knowledge and expertise;
• *establish ways for the government to take greater responsibility to protect our culture, land, and natural resources.* This includes oil and gas resources, tribal and individual; restricted and trust land; landowner rights; cultural preservation of traditional ways and religious practices; and the protection of our sacred sites;
• *improve our government's political, legal, and managerial systems to allow for the full exercise of the sovereign rights of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and*
• *provide for a significant increase in tribal services and a diversified program base that will increase the self-reliance of the Creek individual.*

Name: Valeria Henneha Littlecreek
Age: 48
Residence: Okemah
Family: spouse, Wiley; son, Matthew; and daughter, Ada
Parents: the late Harry Henneha and Christine Henneha
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Nuyaka
Experience: Served 27 years in public school education as curriculum specialist, teacher, counselor, director of Indian education programs, such as JOM, and Title IV Impact Aid. Served as director of Indian Education for the State Department of Education, working with all of the 39 federally recognized tribes on language development, BIA and other government agencies representing the state at tribal functions, self-governance meetings, and updating the State superintendent on all issues of Indian education and tribal matters. Represented the State superintendent on the Oklahoma Commission of Indian Affairs and the State Senate's Education Advisory Committee. Served as director of Human Development for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for two years and supervised seven departments: Head Start; Eufaula Dormitory; JOM; JTPA; Higher Education; Adult Education; and Cultural Preservation. Updated the principal chief on all issues of Indian education and tribal program concerns. Maintained compliance of all related policies. Attended all meetings relating to tribal programs, self-governance, tribal consultation, legislative summits, sovereignty, grant writing and other tribal matters.
Reason for seeking office: I filed as a candidate for principal chief because I feel that I have the skills, knowledge, ability to learn and leadership experience needed to carry out the duties of the office and to serve the interests of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens. The new leader must be able to serve in many different capacities and at many levels in order to conduct tribal business in all areas of housing, health, education, employment, social services, and other tribal programs that are established to meet the needs of our people. The position requires much energy, enthusiasm, compassion, and knowledge of tribal issues and understanding of our culture and our citizens in order to move our Nation forward and to preserve a heritage for the next generations of Muscogee Creek people.

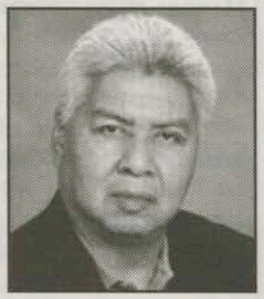
Second Chief candidates

Name: Perry Anderson
Age: 69
Residence: Eufaula
Family: spouse, Ida; three children; eight grandchildren; and two great grandchildren
Parents: the late Perry and Gertrude Anderson of Okemah
Clan: Wotko
Church: Baptist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Greenleaf
Experience: Served 31 years as classroom teacher and coach. Member of the Oklahoma Coaches Hall of Fame. Initiated the Creek Nation SYEP Program in 1975 and won a national award in 1980. Served as job developer and SYEP coordinator from 1988 to 1992. Creek Nation personnel manager since 1992. Veteran of the U.S. Army and a 32nd degree Mason.
Reason for seeking office: to work with all entities and divisions to provide quality service, leadership, and accountability. Assist in developing and promoting our tribe to greatest potential. I feel confident that I can be of great service to all tribal citizens, employees, and their families. If elected, I will carry out the duties of the office of the second chief in accordance with the constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.



Name: Alfred L. Berryhill
Age: 56
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: son, Gregory; daughter-in-law, Sherry; and two grandsons, Kenneth and Nicholas
Parents: Togo M. Berryhill and Lilly Belle Starr King Berryhill; David Tobe L. Berryhill and Mollyanna Jones Berryhill; and Lona Starr and Emily Smith Starr
Clan: Alligator
Church: Tallahassee Indian Methodist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Arbeka
Experience: Administrative intern (Economic Development) Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington D.C.; trainee-Sears management training program; deacon; member of Board of Trustees, Tallahassee Church; assistant treasurer, Tallahassee Church; member of Diabetes Advisory Board; secretary and cofounder of Bearers of the Cross, Inc.; and former administrative assistant, Okmulgee Indian Health Center.
Reason for seeking office: I am a proud member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. My father was a minister and the Creek language was spoken by both my parents, extended family, and visitors to our home and church. He taught me what it means to be a clan member and tribal town member. He preached in the Baptist faith and Methodist faith. I too am respected by both faiths. I will seek to develop a rapport with National Council and the various agencies within our tribe. Given a task, completion and follow-up is very important. I am not a quitter when it benefits our people. I have been to many home and seen all types of conditions and needs. As an administrative assistant with the clinic, I understand the process of administering a $2 million yearly budget and acquired needed supplies to operate the clinic. This has also assisted me in meeting the needs at our church. I will maintain the integrity of the office of the second chief and establish an open dialogue with the next principal chief. I graduated from Sequoyah High School, Haskell Institute, and attended Oklahoma State University, majoring in business administration. As a trainee with the BIA in administration, insight to tribes across the nation in all phases of tribal government and sovereignty is a plus. This afforded me the opportunity to meet with elected officials in Congress. Also, I was able to meet entities, such as the National Congress of American Indians, National Tribal Chairman's Association, and the Americans for Indian Opportunity.

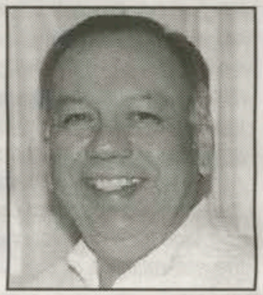
No candidate profile submitted
Name: Nathan Buck



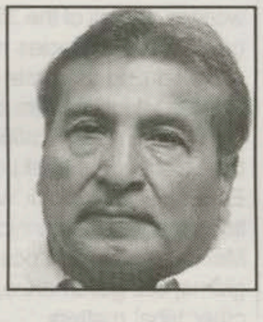
Name: Wilbur Chebon Gouge
Residence: Eufaula
Parents: Albert and Sallie Gouge
Clan: Deer
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Muddy Waters
Experience: Current Speaker of the National Council.
Served as: Second Speaker, eighth session; Speaker, ninth session; Human Development Committee Chairman, tenth session; and Speaker eleventh and twelfth session;. Attended Capital Hill High School on 1969 and Haskell Indian Junior College in 1971. Served in the U.S. Marine Corps and received an honorable mention discharge in 1974. Served a total of eight years as a McIntosh District representative. Fluent in the Mvskoke language.

Name: Curtis Hicks
Age: 39
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: Spouse, Debra Gee; son, Eric; and daughter, Kara
Parents/grandparents: Hanson Hicks and Agnes Hicks; the late Chebon and Sarah Hicks; and the late Buster and Millie Little
Clan: Raccoon
Church: Belvin Baptist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Eufauloce; Okfuskee
Experience: Education; Mason Public School, 1982; Bacone Junior College, Associate of Arts, 1984; Northeastern State University, Bachelor of Science, Education, 1987; and Master of Science, Education, 1990. Tribal government: vocational education counselor, two years; JTPA program manager, seven years; Tribal Affairs deputy director, four years. Management: contracts and grants administrator; federal and tribal reporting requirements; and grant proposal writing. Leadership: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade and Commerce Board, chair; Muscogee (Creek) Nation Small Business Enterprise Board, chair; JTPA National Advisory Council, chair; Region VI JTPA Council, chair; Oklahoma JTPA Council, member; Verdarka Development Corporation Committee; and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Committee, chair.
Reason for seeking office: The role of second chief is important for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation both as a tribal executive leader at the community level and as a national leader who represents the Muscogee (Creek) people. My fourteen years of experience with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, including positions as a vocational counselor and manager of the Nation's employment and training program, has provided me with the leadership skills and experience necessary for such an important position. Most recently, I served as deputy director of the Division of Tribal Affairs, a position for which I was nominated by the Principal Chief Perry Beaver and confirmed unanimously by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council in 1999. As deputy director, I administered a budget totaling over $8 million and supervised six tribal departments, including road construction, realty, and tribal construction. In addition, I have worked closely with the National Council on various pieces of legislation and was appointed to serve on tow tribal business enterprise boards that examined new ways to bring more economic opportunities to the Nation. Furthermore, I have pursued higher education and earned bachelor of arts and master of arts degrees in education from Northeastern State University. Most importantly, my traditional upbringing in Mason and learning the Muscogee language at an early age have taught me to pursue success, but not to forget my roots. Therefore, I would consider it a privilege and honor to serve as the Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Creek District Seat A
Name: Judy Aaron
Age: 38
Residence: Sapulpa
Family: Spouse, Mitchell Aaron, children: Megan, Amy, and Emily
Parents/grandparents: Carolyn (Willie) and Eugene John; Maryland and George Willie; and Betsy and Cornelius John
Clan: Deer
Church: Big Cussetah Indian Methodist Church
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Green Leaf Tribal Town
Experience: Professional experience in Health Care Administration for 10 years, currently serving as the Privacy Official for Saint Francis Health System, Tulsa, OK. Leadership experience in the community arena as a member of Sapulpa Creek Indian Community, and serving Big Cussetah Indian Methodist Church. During my first term as a National Council Representative my peers elected me, as Chairman of the Fact Finding Committee, and Vice-Chairman of Human Development Committee.
Reason for seeking office: I am choosing to seek the honor of serving the Citizens of the Creek District for a second term because I believe in a dream of a government serving our Citizens in an open and honest forum. I am working for the day when our Citizens will walk into any Tribal building, Ceremonial Ground, or Church and be proud of the strength of their Nation



Creek District Seat A
Name: George Tiger
Age: 53
Residence: Bristow
Family
Parents/grandparents: Reverend Coody and Lela McNac Tiger; Moty and Susie Tiger; and Peter and Mary McNac
Clan: Wind
Church: Yardeka Indian Baptist Church
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Hickory Ground
Experience:_Previously served on the National Council and experienced in working with other tribes and organizations in the areas of land issues, gaming, economic development, health, housing and education.
Reason for seeking office: The decision to file for this seat was based on the encouragement and support from citizens in the district of their need for a strong positive voice and solid representation on the National Council and using the knowledge and experience attained in areas of interest that is beneficial to all Creek citizens.



Creek District Seat B
Name: Duke Harjo
Residence: Sapulpa
Family: Wife, daughter, son, and five grandchildren
Parents/grandparents: The late Jim B. Harjo and the late Lena Wind Harjo; John and Peggy Harjo; and James and Winey Wind
Clan: Bear
Church: High Spring Baptist, Okemah
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Alabama
Experience: former lighthorse admin. chief; Alabama Quassarte tribal town chief and governing committee chair; and two terms as representative of Creek District
Reason: To improve the services, health and education, for the Creek citizens and the overall welfare of all our citizens.

Creek District Seat B

No candidate profile submitted
Name: Jacob Mosquito

Creek District Seat C

No contest
Name: Roger Barnett
Age: 42
Residence: Bristow
Family: son,Eco Tasahce
Clan: Wind
Church: Concharty United Methodist
Tribal Town: Kvncate (Concharty)

Reason: It has been a privilege to serve as the Creek District Representative for the past term. I am looking forward to the challenges that await us during this next session. The opportunities for the Tribe as well as the communities look very prosperous. Mvto for your support and encouragement. God bless you and your families.

McIntosh District Seat A

Name: Sue A. Bear Dalgam
Age: 50
Residence: Eufaula
Family: Spouse, the late James Dalgam; two children, Robert and Sharon
Parents: the late Caesar and Susie Bear
grandparent: the late Kizzie and Taylor Bear
Clan: Deer
Church: Baptist (southern) Durango, Colorado
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Hickory Ground

Experience: Educator, home economics, emphasis nutrition/dietary; knowledge of housing, built, planned two homes (FHA/VA); knowledge/care on health needs; degrees–psychology, english, counseling, worked with job corps, alternative school southern Ute; Shawnee public school. Volunteer work.

Reason for seeking office: 1. Health needs are badly needed for citizens, especially the dialysis patients, dialysis centers needed for remote areas that are too far away from patients homes in need of transportation. Diabetes needing ramps, bathroom prosthesis. 2. Housing is in dire need to utilize better materials to help the homeowner from requesting repairs so frequently; employee people who have the experience and expertise in the housing areas. 3. Higher education, the allocation for student's needs for books, lab fees, and rising cost per hour needs to increased. 4. Council members require quarterly reports from management level. Each council representative should also be accountable in writing to constituents.

McIntosh District Seat A

Name: Tommy Pickering
Age: 47
Residence: Eufaula
Family: Spouse, Judith; sons, Sheridan and Judd; grandchildren, Bluebird and August
Clan: Sweet potato
Church: West Eufaula Indian Baptist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Hitchita

Experience: Elected 7 times to the national council–chaired various committees as well being on various committees in the legislative branch. Very knowledgeable of all tribal programs from health, education, Sr. programs, cultural, economic development, housing and various other programs in the tribe.

Reason for seeking office: I been asked by many community leaders in McIntosh district to seek another term to continue to represent and work for the creek citizens from McIntosh district as I always have. Currently working on these projects for what the communities and people want; new health clinic; economic development; Sr. citizens assist living retirement home; community center for Eufaula; gaming expansion for Checotah gaming operations; youth and cultural programs and housing.

McIntosh District Seat B

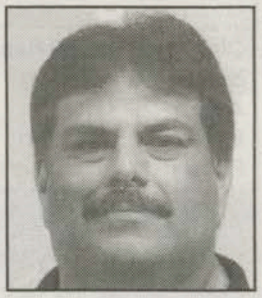
Name: Vernon T. Courtwright
Age: 54
Residence: Checotah
Family: Daughter, Rita; two grandchildren, Madeline and Corbin
Parents: Victor and Lucille Courtwright
grandparents: Everett and Emma Home
Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Keco Pateke

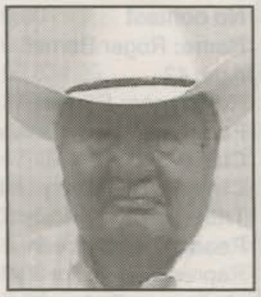
Experience: Administrative officer – BIA 10 years, Vietnam Era Veteran – U.S. Navy; small business operator, 20 years; Mvskoke nation honor guard, 3 years; volunteer firefighter, 21 years; free-lance writer, various local newspapers; and tribal constitutional amendment committee, 2 years.

Reason for seeking office: I believe we're not just put on this earth to help ourselves, but to help others as well. My life speaks for itself. I've served my country in the U.S. Navy in the Vietnam Era and still serve my tribe and fellow veterans as a member of the Mvskoke honor guard. I've served my community of Onapa for over 20 years. As a volunteer firefighter and have served on our tribal constitution amendment committee for the past two years. It was this experience that helped me realize that I can help the people of my district and tribe through a seat on our national council. We all need better healthcare and jobs in our communities. I would like a chance to do something about these problems and I need your support and votes on Sept. 20 to do that. Mvto!

McIntosh District Seat B

No candidate profile submitted
Name: Anthony (Tony) Notaro

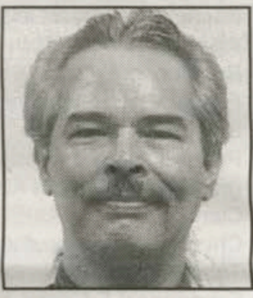




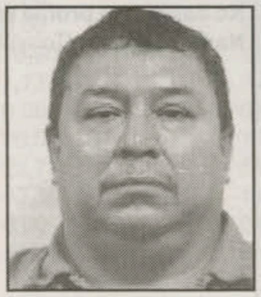
McIntosh District Seat C
No contest
No candidate profile submitted
Name: Thomas McIntosh

Muskogee District Seat A
No contest
Name: Sandra Parish
Age: 40
Residence: Muskogee
Family: Spouse, Larry; children, Wesley, Josh, Cheyanna, and Laranda
Parents/grandparents: Nancy Sue and the late Wille Parnosky; Butler Fields; Jenny Collins; Noah Parnosky; and Alice Bruner
Church: Fife Memorial United Methodist
Reason: Having a voice for the people of Muscogee County.

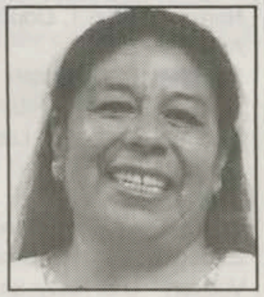
Muskogee District Seat B
Name: Andrea Sue Johnson
Age: 59
Residence: Muskogee
Family: Spouse, William Giles; daughter, Lisa and eight grandchildren
Clan: Deer
Church: Bacone
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Hickory Ground
Experience: I worked as a nurse with duties form floor to ICU burn and special care units. In the food service business as an assistant manager. The governor of Kansas appointed me to the citizens utility ratepayer's board, four years and two as chairperson. Chairperson to secretary of local and state organizations. Volunteer work includes service for tribe, VA hospital and DAV transportation drivers. Also serve on various committees in the Muscogee Indian community and Muscogee (Creek) Nation senior advisory council. I have worked in stressful, high demand situations and of strict confidence plus long hours.
Reason for seeking office: A representative's voice for Muskogee district. I will work to introduce and work the legislative process, also to oversee that the laws of the nation are upheld and in compliance with other governments. Next try to future the housing, health, education (youth & elders), social services and economic development issues and concerns of the nation and its tribal members, especially those in Muskogee district.



Muskogee District Seat B
Name: Robert E. LaGrone, Jr.
Age: 50
Residence: Muskogee
Family: Spouse, Elizabeth; daughter, Sharona; grandchildren, Jacob and Cogee
Parents: Cledith and Robert E. LaGrone, Sr.
grandparents: Eddie and Lucinda Lindsey and Harold and Helen LaGrone
Clan: Katcvlke
Church: Little Quarsarty Indian Baptist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Tuckabatchee/Green Leaf
Experience: 25 years of progressive public service in Indian affairs. Initiated the first food commodity program in Oklahoma. Assisted tribal government in the P.L. 93-638 contracting process and program management. Planned, implemented and negotiated Self-Governance status for the Muscogee Nation. Drafted bills and resolutions for the national council consideration as Muscogee Nation senior policy analyst. Created the Muscogee Nation Historic preservation office. Served on the Muscogee community board of directors. Education: A.A. in accounting, B.A. in business administration/economics, and MBA in management in progress. Specialized training in tribal taxation, sovereignty, jurisdiction, law and the legislative process. Currently a management consultant to tribal governments.
Reason for seeking office: I fortunately was influenced by family elder role models. I choose now to walk in their foot steps and continue their work for the betterment of all citizens. Okes Ce.



Okfuskee District Seat A
Name: Walter Pigeon
Age: 51
Residence: Okemah
Family: four daughters; Denise, Melissa, Stephanie, and Melissa Ann
Parents: John and Gertie Pigeon
grandparents: Tully McNac and Lucinda McKellop and Cemilane Pigeon and Jennie Deo
Clan: Bird
Church: Hickory Ground #1
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: New Tulsa
Experience: This is my first attempt towards an elective position of the Creek Nation. I read, write and speak the creek language fluently, which can be very useful in communications. In prior years, worked under Tribal Affairs department legal researcher, paralegal.
Reason for seeking office: The need for more involvement from representatives in their communities and county. I think there is a lack of informative communications to the communities.



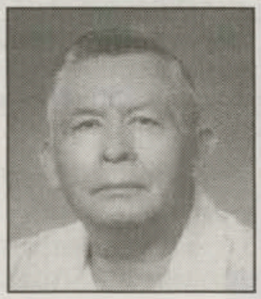
Okfuskee District Seat A
Name: Nancy S. Watson
Age: 49
Residence: Okemah
Family: two daughters, Angie and Alison
Parents: Calvin and the late Agnes West
Grandparents: the late George and Bessie West and the late Willie Fixico and Sarah Holatha
Clan: Deer
Church: Prairie Springs Indian Baptist
Experience: Presently serving second term.
Reason for seeking office: I would like to continue serving the Creek people. I would like to insure that our programs progress in a more positive manner to better address the needs of the people. I would like to continue to be a strong advocate for all Creek citizens.

Okfuskee District Seat B
Name: H. Mae Jackson
Age: 68
Residence: Okemah
Family: Spouse, Bobby Jackson; son, Phillip and four grandchildren
Parents: Phillip and Anna Tiger
grandparents: George and Hepsie Tiger and March and Lizzie Monday
Clan: Bear
Church: Skyview Baptist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Fishpond
Experience: Over 20 years experience in Social Services and community organization chartered member and coauthor of the Oklahoma City Creek Association, Indian Clinic, training/emp. program. Member of the Okemah Indian community. Served on the national council 8 years.
Reason for seeking office: I am full-blood creek/seminole, speak fairly good and understand fully the muscogee language; I understand and respect the traditional/cultural ways of our people and with my background in social services and personal experience; I fully understand and am sensitive to the economic problems of our elderly and moderate-low income households. I am filing for reelection for the present seat in the Okfuskee district and hope that you will consider allowing me to represent you for another term. Mvto!

Okfuskee District Seat C
No contest
Name: Sandra Golden
Age: 53
Residence: Weleekta
Parents: Minnie Jeffley and Eugene Golden
grandparents: Fannie McNac and Tewee Jeffley
Clan: Deer
Church: Springfield Methodist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Nuyaka
Experience: I attended public schools in western Oklahoma, graduating from Thomas high school. I received my associate of art degree from Bacon college, my bachelor of arts from Southwestern State College and my masters in public health from the University of California, Berkeley.

My work experience has been with tribal, state and national programs, with approximately ten years serving on boards and committees with four years on the American Indian Alaska Native 2000 Census advisory committee, chairing two years. I have many years in administration and planning in various health, education and social services programs.

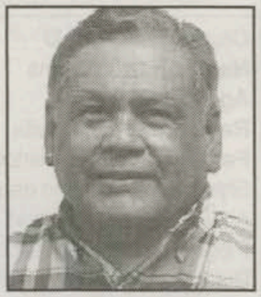
I am running for office because I believe there is still much to do in the development as a sovereign nation. Our offices in Okmulgee seem to get bigger and bigger while the services to the citizens and communities seem to get smaller. It is really scary to think we are becoming the government establishment we used to complain about! It has been said that you cannot correct the problems with the same methods that caused them.



Okmugee Seat A
Name: David Lewis Jr.
Age: 69
Residence: Henryetta
Family: Spouse, Lillie; sons, Ronnie and Richard; daughter, Diane Jobe
Parents: Jeanetta Jacobs and David Lewis Sr.
Clan: Bird
Church: West Eufaula Indian
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Hickory Ground
Experience: 10 years experience as Okmulgee District representative. Extensive experience in tribal affairs from economic to community development. Upholds Muscogee cultural ways.
Reason for seeking office: I want to continue the work I've started such as increased health care, economic development and education benefits for our people. I would appreciate your support. Mvto!

Okfuksee District Seat B
No candidate profile submitted
Name: Lena Lee Wind

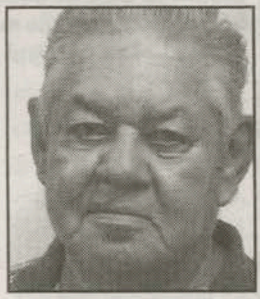
Okmulgee District Seat A
Name: Loretta C. Yahola
Age: 49
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: Spouse, David, whom I can depend on friendship and strength
Parents: the late Daniel and Neazetah Yahola
grandparents: the late Joe and Leah Coker Roberts
Clan: Beaver
Church: Nuyaka Indian Baptist
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: New Tulsa – raised Okfuskee grounds
Experience: Deal with general public, worked convenience stores, good speech and communication skills. I know the Muscogee language very well. I have worked in the medical field. I will be attending OSU and will transfer later to a University to study law.
Reason for seeking office: I believe in the people of Creek Nation, there are several areas within the nation to improve and I want to be a part of some decisions. I feel we have certainly come a long way and good things have happened within the nation. Education and health have been my most important concerns. I want to represent our people and truly voice my concerns on any and all issues. I care for and enjoy people and try to help.



Okmulgee District Seat A
Name: Robert W. "Bill" Jones
Age: 59
Residence: Okmulgee
Family: three children, Roxanne, Ryan and Renee
Parents: the late Elmer Jones and Elsie Roberts
Grandparents: Parlie Douglas and Kendall and Mary West Roberts
Clan: Deer
Church: Belvin Baptish
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Nuyaka
Experience: Okmulgee Indian community center executive board, Okmulgee senior citizens group officer, Muskogee Creek Nation senior volunteer, Commander of the Veteran of Foreign Wars (7 years), serves as Chaplain for military funerals, Haskell Indian Junior college board of regents student senate president, Deep Fork community action board, Viet Nam Veteran and chamber of Commerce.
Reason for seeking office: I want to help my Creek people by working to increase the number of economic programs to employ our Creek people, improving conditions for the elderly such as housing and health, increasing educational opportunities for our children, and continuing to assist veterans. I will be sensitive to the people's needs by keeping an open line of communication.

Okmulgee District Seat B

No contest



Name: Keeper Johnson

Age: 64

Residence: Morris

Family: Spouse, Martha Johnson; sons, Keeper Jr. and Roger Johnson

Parents/grandparents: Bettie McHenry Johnson and Harbor Johnson; Lewis and Cila Tiger McHenry; and Keeper and Jeanitta Scott Johnson

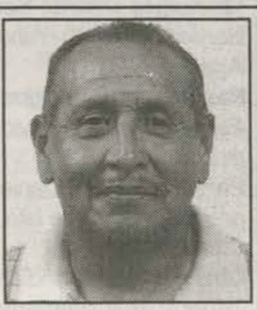
Clan: Katcha

Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Coweta

Experience: Previous Housing Authority of the Creek Nation chairman board of commissioners; chairman, Claremore Indian Hospital; JOM chairman for Morris school; two term on Seat B Okmulgee District.

Reason for seeking office: Best serve people with my experience in housing, health, education and employment.

Okmulgee Seat C



Name: Eastman Whitlow, Jr.

Age: 56

Residence: Morris

Family: Spouse, Roberta; three daughters, Kristie, Michelle and Tia, one son, Edmond and one granddaughter, Andrea

Parents: the late Eastman Whitlow Sr. and Rosana Harper Whitlow

Clan: Wind

Church: Thlewahle Baptist

Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Hillabee

Experience: Self-employed business for past 13 years.

Reason for seeking office: Bringing new ideas and business experience and people skills.

Okmulgee Seat D

Name: Rita Williams

Age: 58

Residence: Henryetta

Family: Spouse, Barton Williams married 37 years; one son, Shawn Williams and daughter-in-law Nichole; three grandchildren, Alaysia, Mehenwa, and Yahv

Parents: The late Thomas Berryhill Sr. and the late Blanche Pakoska Bland Berryhill

Grandparents: The late Joseph Berryhill and the late Annie Kanard Berryhill

Clan: Alligator

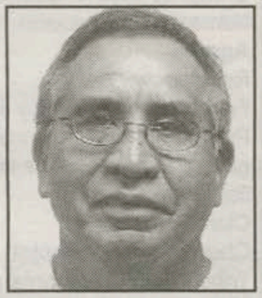
Church: Honey Creek Methodist

Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Kasita

Experience: Worked under three administrations until I retired in 2001. Stay involved with my community. Reorganized Wilson Indian community. Creek Nation senior advisory council, Creek Nation grandparents association, appointed to the Oklahoma Board of Directors, League of Women Voters, Okmulgee/Okfuskee Red Cross board member, organized the first Native American League of Women voters under Oklahoma League of Women voters. Creek Council House museum staff volunteer.

Reason for seeking office: My tribal affiliation and community involvement will help to serve the urban and grassroots people on a larger scale.

Okmulgee Seat C



Name: Billy Webster Chalakee

Age: 65

Residence: Okmulgee

Family: Spouse, the late Amelia; sons, Jeffrey and Billy Chalakee Jr.; four stepchildren

Parents: The late Webster and Martha Bird Chalakee

Grandparents: The late Thomas and Mulsie Bible Chalakee and the late Willie and Minnie Larney Bird

Clan: Deer

Church: Honey Creek

Experience: Knowledge of the Creek Nation: 34 years with the BIA finance department. Served two years with the U.S. Army. Chairman of Wilson Indian community center. Serve as Advisory committee member of the Creek elders and the antismoking organization of the Health of Creek Nation. Do volunteer work with Okmulgee Senior citizens group.

Reason for seeking office: To support economic development, housing, health and education that will be beneficial to all tribal members and to see more individual programs for the Creek citizens. If elected, I will do my best to help the Creek citizens of my district and be available at all times to listen and try to solve whatever problems that they may have.

Okmulgee District Seat D

Name: Sandra Turner Peters

Age: 58

Residence: Okmulgee

Family: Marion Peters, Justus, Elizabeth, Rebecca

Parents: Reuben and Fannie Turner

grandparents: Polly and Thomas Cook and Columbus and Ella Blundell Turner III

Clan: Wind

Church: Big Arbor Baptist

Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Arbeka-Tullodegn

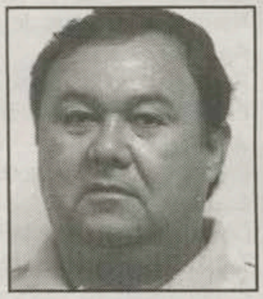
Experience: Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council four years, Tribal Affairs vice-chairman two years, fact finding committee three years, community services and cultural committee two years, health board two years, housing task force committee, Weyerhaeuser grant award committee eight years, Murrow Indian Children's home board, music director Bacone College, bachelor of arts degree from Northeastern State University, graduate studies in educational psychology, brokerage study.

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking a third term with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation national council because it is heart of our tribe. It is there that we observe and labor over the actual larger scope of our people's needs. I believe, that we have tried to raise the standard in the areas of Health, housing, tribal affairs, economic and human development, education and Social cervices for the Nation. All of these efforts keep me close to the pulse of our people. It is truly a high calling to be able to work for our tribe. Thank you for your help. Mvto!

Okmulgee District Seat E

No Contest

No candidate profile submitted



Name: David Nichols

Tukvpvtce District Seat A

Name: Lola Fields

Age: 56

Residence: Wetumka

Family: spouse, Rev. Billy W. Fields

Parents/grandparents: The late Eliza Beaver Yargee and Sandy Fish; Rev. Daniel and Polly Larney Beaver; and Peter and Lola Fish

Clan: Bird

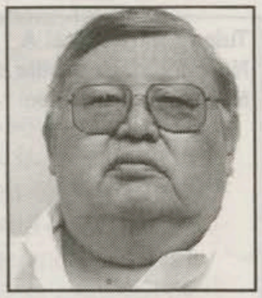
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Tukvpvtce

Experience: Elected 2001 as Tukvpvtce District representative; chair, community services and cultural committee; and ex-officio MCN Health Board. Employed as special ed teacher, Byng schools. BS in Education, East Central University. Certified nursing home administrator, University of Oklahoma

Reason for seeking office: I am seeking re-election in order to continue the measures initiated to forward progress of the Nation in all aspects and provide aggressive representation for the citizens of Tukvpvtce District.

Tukvpvtce Seat A

No candidate profile submitted



Name: James Rudolph McGirt

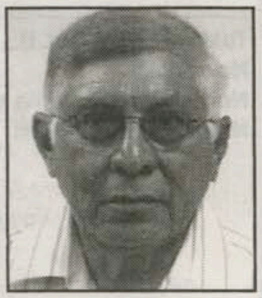
Tukvpvtce District Seat A

No candidate profile submitted

Name: Henry L. Harjo

Tukvpvtce District Seat B

No Contest



Name: Thomas Yahola

Age: 64

Residence: Wetumka

Family: Phyllis, Thomasene, Asi, Leah, Lenora, Angela, Melinda, B.C., and Beth

Parents: the late Lyman and Bertha Yahola

grandparents: the late Willie and Annie Smith Yahola; the late Sunda and Ella Scott Taylor

Clan: Deer

Church: Motesuma Indian Baptist

Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Tahlahvse

Experience: four terms, national council and served as second speaker and speaker

Reason for seeking office: To continue to initiate and support legislation that will be beneficial to the Nation, programs, communities and it's citizens. To maintain communications and visits with citizens, communities and other organizations on their issues.

Tukvpvtce Seat C

Name: Shirlene M. Aide

Age: 57

Residence: Holdenville

Family: married, three children and four grandchildren

Parents: The late Frank Lewis and the late Elizabeth Narcomey

Grandparents: Daniel Lewis and Polly Thompson; and Daniel Narcomey and Rose Williams

Clan: Tiger

Church: Akasvmkv

Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Cheyaha

Experience: Federal Government 20 years; 3 years college in business, budgets, federal grants and tribal management grants

Reason for seeking office: As a Creek citizen, I feel it is time for a change and I would like to see a change in the way services are administered. As Creek citizens, we are all equal. As equals, we should all have the same opportunity to receive services from the Creek Nation, not just a select few. Presently, the Creek Nation is very progressive, but proportionately losing touch with the grass roots people in the process. This trade off is unacceptable. The Creek citizens don't ask for much from the Creek Nation, but what they do ask for matters. As we change leadership it is my hope that our Creek leaders will work together to improve the lives of our Creek citizens and communities. If elected to the Council, I will honor the Creek people, our values, and traditions.

Tukvpvtce District Seat C

Name: L.C. Franks

Age: 61

Residence: Holdenville

Family: spouse, Lorraine; sons, Christopher, Ronald, and Norman; and daughter, Danielle

Parents: the late Taylor and Emma Franks

Clan: Bird

Church: Tookparfka Baptist

Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: New Tulsa

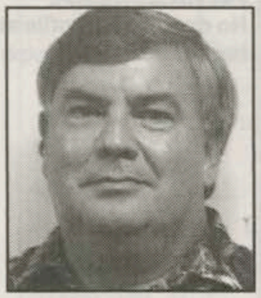
Experience: National Council two years and election board four years

Reason for seeking office: I have served you in some capacity in Creek Nation since 1990: two years as a member of the council; four years on the election board. In April, 2003, I resigned from the election board to run for council.

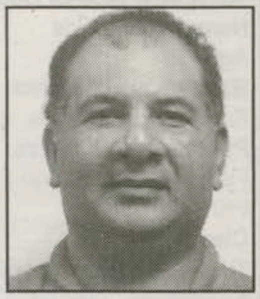
I would like to represent you with good attendance and reports at community meetings.

I would appreciate your vote in order to serve you again as a part of the Legislative Body.

Tulsa District Seat A
No candidate profile submitted
Name: Larry S. Bible

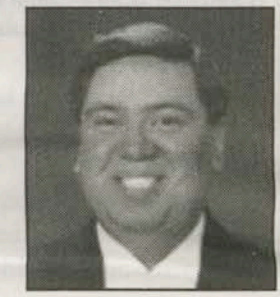


Tulsa District Seat A
No candidate profile submitted
Name: Joseph T. Rogers

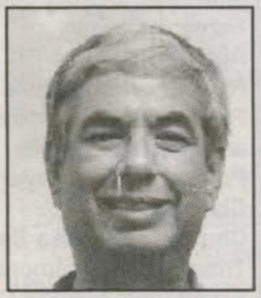


Tulsa District Seat B
No contest
No candidate profile submitted
Name: Cherrah Quiett

Tulsa District Seat C
Name: David Battiest
Age: 35
Residence: Tulsa
Parents/grandparents: Rev. Charles Battiest and Betty Louanne Paul Watashe; the late Ernest and Florence Watashe; and the late Cyrus and Cathryn Battiest
Clan: Bear
Church: Snake Creek Indian Baptist, Liberty Mounds
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Kellyville
Experience: president of Native American Student Association in college; business owner; and worked in public relations for 16 years
Reason for seeking office: I'm running to be part of a working and effective council. One who will put petty differences aside and work to help make a difference for all the Creek citizens, while taking care of my constituents at home in the Tulsa District. This year's election is about new beginnings, with a new chief and a new council. My goal is to work to increase education funding and to provide the educational tools needed by our youth. Despite what our national leaders say, it's truly up to us to make sure none of our tribal members are left behind. I will work effortlessly with the new chief to develop more jobs and to make sure our people make up a majority of the work force. Another goal is to increase services to Muscogee senior citizens. Our elderly have lived in the less prosperous times of our tribe and should be given priority in their needs.



Tulsa District Seat C
Name: Ronald Allen Cleghorn
Age: 53
Residence: Tulsa
Parents/grandparents: James G. and Irene Jacobs Cleghorn; John Alexander Jacobs and Nancy Tea Jacobs
Clan: Sweet Potato
Chruch: First Baptist of Tulsa
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: New Tulsa
Experience: I am currently serving in my second term as a Tulsa District representative on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council. Formerly, I served on the Board of Directorsfor the Tulsa Creek Indian Community and was active in the community's activities and functions. Being raised in the Tulsa area, I grew up knowing many of the tribal citizen's personally and their needs and concerns. I graduated from Tulsa Memorial High School and attended college,
Reason for seeking office: My decision to run for re-election is that the current National Council has enacted quality legislation that benfits all tribal citizens. I definitely fell I have contributed and made an impact as a council member in this area. As the Tulsa District voter, you are my boss and I am your servant. I am both visible and accessible to my constituents at all times. I humbly ask for your prayers, support, and vote on September 20, 2003. May God bless you and yours.



Tulsa District Seat C
No candidate profile submitted
Name: Edwin Moore

Tulsa District Seat C

Name: Mary Sue Peak

Age: 62

Residence: Tulsa

Family: three children and six grandchildren

Parents/grandparents: Rev. William Alexander and the lateMary Harjo Alexander; Robert and Abbie Williams Alexander; Lewie Eufaula; and Susie Soloman Harjo

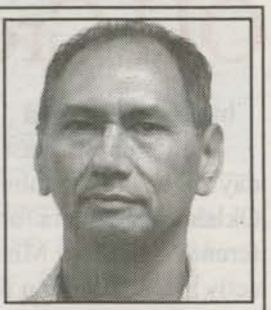
Clan: Deer

Church: Indian Fellowship Baptist, Oakhurst

Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Green Leaf Tribal Town

Experience: Creek Nation election board member 1975 -1995; elected representative for Tulsa District 2000 - 2002; and served on two National Council committees, business and govermental and fact finding

Reason for seeking office: to represent the Tulsa District voters as a dependable and honest representative, voting on issues that would benefit not only the Tulsa District, but the Muscogee Creek Nation. My top priority will be issues concerning health, education, and senior citizens programs. I will work with the new administration to promote these programs, as well as economic development. Your vote on September 20, 2003 would be appreciated.



Tulsa District Seat D

No Contest

No candidate profile submitted

Name: Robert Hufft

Tulsa District Seat E

Name: Jesse Kelley

Age: 56

Residence: Tulsa

Family: spouse, Barbara and son, Lance

Parents/grandparents: the late Mary Lee Charley Day and Jesse A. Kelley

Clan: Bear

Church: Haikey Chapel United Methodist

Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Locvokv Tribal Twon

Experience: National Council Representative for the past 10 years; past member and chairman of the Creek Nation Election Board; past member of community service; and currently serving on the tribal affairs committee

Reason for seeking office: I am committed. My desire is to continue to serve as your Tulsa District Representative to provide information to tribal members so they are informed of services and benefits available to them. I will continue to support the Creek Community centers. Housing, health care, education of our youth, and economic development are priorities.

Tulsa District Seat E

Name: Tammy Bigpond Russell

Age: 26

Residence: Jenks

Family: spouse, Michael; brother, Negiel Jr.; sister, Tonya; and one sister-in-law and nephew

Parents'grandparents: Rev. Negiel and Jan Bigpond; the late Rev. Roy Bigpond and the late Lilly Simms Cox; and the late Jimmy Tiger and Edna Driscoll

Church: Morning Star Evangelistic Center, Hectorville

Experience: Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Norhteastern State University, Project Manager for Central Parking System, Inc., three years; and currently serving as administrative controller for Two Rivers Native American Training Center

Reason for seeking office: to bring new ideas to the National Council and become active with our tribal issues, as well as better meet the needs of our tribal citizens in all issues that may be of concern to them.

Creek District Seat A

No Contest

No candidate profile submitted

Name: Richard Berryhill

Wagoner District Seat B

No Contest

Name: Barbara Gillespie

Age: 65

Residence: Coweta

Family: Two sons

Parents: The late Mose Childers and Violet Childers Freeman

Clan: Sweet Potato

Church: First Baptist

Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Locupokv

Experience: real estate sales; retail sales; inventroy control; Five terms on National Council; and OSU extension service;

Reason for seeking office: I bring to the National Council experience, education, leadership, and dedication. Concerns of the citizens of the Wagoner, Rogers, and Mayes District have been and will continue to be a priority. It is a continuing battle to stay abreast of the ever increasing needs of the people as our citizenship rolls continue to increase. Goals I will set are: education; job opportunties; adequate housing and more services for elders. A health clinic in the Wagoner District has been in the planning stage for severral years. We have received a federal grant to accomplish this goal. The land has been purchased in the Coweta area. Waiting for the funding to start construction. The ground breaking is scheduled sometime in 2003.

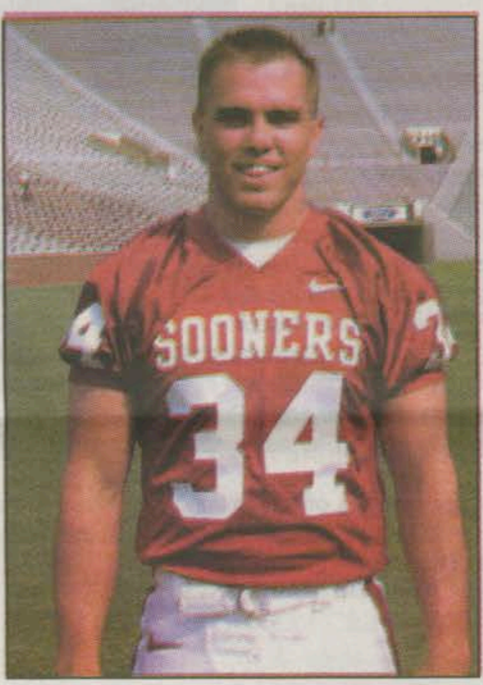
OU Creek ready for start of season

by Gerald Wofford

The setting was last November on a cool, fall Saturday night in Columbus, Missouri. The University of Oklahoma Sooners football team was taking on a conference rival, the Missouri Tigers. But, it wasn't exactly a cool situation for the Sooners at the time. With only 10:22 remaining in the fourth quarter, the score was 24 to 23, in favor of the Tigers. Fans in Columbus were ecstatic. Not since 1998 had they seen their beloved Tigers register a win against the Sooners.

Sooners Head Coach Bob Stoops called for a field goal, or at least the Tigers thought so. The play called for the field goal holder, which was none other than Muscogee (Creek) citizen Matt McCoy, to take the snap, pick up the ball, turn and find the open receiver.

> **"Matt does a nice job and continues to be solid all year," said Stoops. "He's another player that's came on the scene, and continues to do well covering plays. He is really a smart player."**



Football is a team sport, but it all comes down to each athlete's personal performance and how the athlete responds to his team, to the fans, and to the game situation. It was time for McCoy to respond.

Rewind the clock back to 1998. McCoy was part of then Head Football Coach John Blake's third recruiting class that included other Sooner notables, such as Rocky Calmus and Roy Williams. McCoy was recruited for his defensive ability and was red-shirted by the Blake administration his freshmen year.

Although Blake's recruits would flourish, his regime would not. Faced with disappointing losing seasons that culminated in 12 wins and 22 losses, Blake would resign in 1998. All of a sudden, McCoy was a member of a team whose leader was no longer needed.

How would the young recruit from Jenks respond? McCoy had seen similar situations where other college players left the school. The young Sooner could have not imagined anything worse. He had always envisioned playing for Oklahoma. But what if the incoming coach, who ever it would be, had different plans entirely? After all, it could be a coach's option to start everything from scratch and dump the old system, including the players recruited by the previous coach. McCoy looked at his future and wondered if Oklahoma would be a part of it.

In came Bob Stoops, who had played football at Iowa University and had coaching stints at Kansas State and Florida. Stoops was hired by Oklahoma Athletic Director Joe Castiglione to repair a damaged program. Stoops brought in his brother Mike and Brent Venables to help with the defensive units. Together, along with other members of a revamped coaching staff, they would create new team strategies and philosophies.

McCoy would soon discover that his services would be needed by the Oklahoma coaching staff.

"Matt does a nice job and continues to be solid all year," said Stoops. "He's another player that's came on the scene, and continues to do well covering plays. He is really a smart player."

"The difference between this team now and the one that was here three years ago is incredible," said McCoy, "The confidence, discipline, and success that Coach Stoops gives to everyone is contagious."

McCoy is not your prototypical super athlete of today. At 5'11, 195 pounds, you may not believe that he is an instrumental part of an elite college football program. But what McCoy lacks in size, he more than makes up for in heart. Although he's not a starter, he is called on frequently in certain defensive schemes and situations. One McCoy highlight has the Sooner grabbing an interception in the 2002 Cotton Bowl against Arkansas.

"You're happy to see a guy like Matt have success," said Oklahoma Co-Defensive Coordinator Brent Venables. "It comes from a lot of things. Some of it is from his mental approach and some of it is the way he is coached. Maybe he's not as physically talented as some of the other players on this team, but a lot of success he has is due to how hard he works."

Perhaps that's the reason he was called upon in Columbus, Missouri to throw the go-ahead touchdown.

"We always work on that play in practice," said McCoy. "So I knew to be prepared for it."

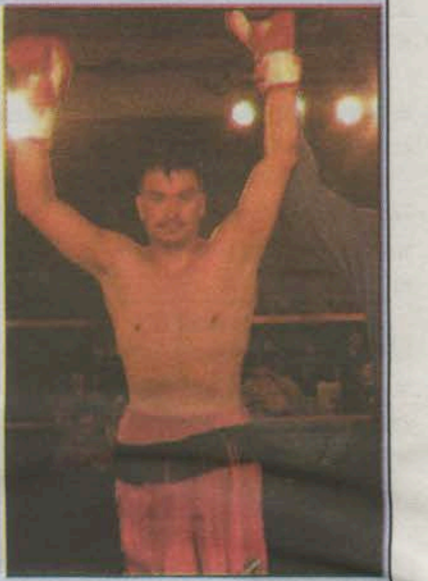
McCoy was prepared for it. He found tight end Chris Chester in the end zone for the go ahead score and preserved a Sooner victory. The final score was Oklahoma 31, Missouri 24.

McCoy, who will graduate in December with a degree in Business Management, is always glad for the opportunity of seeing things through and not giving up.

Waggnor fights again

by Gerald Wofford

Imagine being an athlete in your youthful prime, your talent has excelled enough for you to consider becoming professional and making a living with your skill. You do go pro and are undefeated in your sport. Then all of a sudden, feeling burned-out because of the monotonous dedication and commitment it takes to stay at the top of your game, you walk away and let it all go. Seven years later, you decide to make a comeback, hoping the sport that had given you so much early success has not left, and will be kind to you once more.



For B.J. Waggnor, all of the above is true. Waggnor bills himself as the *Creek Warrior*. It had been 7 years since he last climbed into the ring for a professional sanctioned boxing match. At age 30, when most athletes are beginning to look seriously at retirement and life away from their sport, he is beginning his athletic journey again, hoping to pick up where he left off. So far, so good. The *Creek Warrior* has had two fights and both have ended in stoppage. His most recent fight, held on July 25 at the Creek Nation Tulsa Casino, was against Charles Simms. The bout ended 25 seconds into the second round.

Although his performance was impressive and his fans were pleased, Waggnor did not grade his performance very highly.

"I give myself a C minus tonight," said Waggnor. "There are a lot of technical things I want to work on and improve on."

Whatever those technical things may be, the Creek fighter certainly looked physically prepared for the evening's match.

"Actually, I'm in better shape than I was when I was 23," said Waggnor when looking back to the last time he boxed professionally. During his professional career, he had seven wins and no losses, six of them were wins by knockout.

Waggnor didn't totally forget about fighting during his sabbatical, he entered three Toughman contests in Oklahoma, just for fun.

Today, the sound of traditional stomp dance music is heard over the loud speakers during his entrance to the ring. Traditional sounds for this *Creek Warrior*.

Institute offers sports and educational opportunity

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Tulsa family help family member celebrate 87th birthday

• Story page 5

SPORTS

Rabbit helps lead Wilson Tigers to next level

• Story page 8

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September 2003, 8 Pages

Creek hurler climbs ladder to success

by Gerald Wofford

The life of a pitcher can be a lonely one. No matter how many scores your team makes, no matter how many home runs are hit, no matter how many dazzling double plays are achieved, a ball game can still come down to the sole performance of a pitcher. It is said good pitching wins game. If thats true, then it only strengthens the case that the life and death of a season can rest soley on a young pitcher's shoulders.

Keith Bucktrot knows all about the pressure of the spotlight being on you. But, according to Bucktrot, there is no other place he would rather be than on the baseball diamond. Blessed with an atheltic talent that allowed him to choose any position on the field, he chose the mound to showcase his goods.

Having graduated from Claremore High School, the Creek athlete chose to be drafted by a Major League Baseball team.

"The teams that were interested in me, such as the Montreal Expos, only wanted me to play in outfield postions," said Bucktrot. "The Phillies, (Philadelphia) told me that we want you as a pitcher."

Bucktrot immediately signed. The other item that attracted Keith to the Phillies system is the batting rules of the National League.

"National League rules allow you to bat as a pitcher." stated Bucktrot. "In the American League, they sometimes do not want their pitchers to bat and choose someone for them, but I like to bat."

Bucktrot has been in the farm system for three years. He began his climb with the Single A Gulf Coast

please see **BUCKTROT**..., page 8

Creek citizen crowned Miss Indian Nations

Muscogee Tribal Member, Cody Harjo, was recently crowned Miss Indian Nations 2003. Harjo won the crown on September 6, at The National Miss Indian Nations Pageant, in Bismark, South Dakota. Miss Indian Nations' primary goal will be to utilize her communication skills through teaching and sharing with our non-Indian brothers and sisters the rich traditions, cultures, and heritage of Native American Indian people. Harjo currently attends Dartmouth University.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Miss Indian Na
XII
03-04

Muscogee Nation Buisness Enterprise continues to grow

OKMULGEE — In February of this year, Creek citizen Michael Nalley was hired by the tribe to manage the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise (MNBE), a 8(a) company formed to pursue government and commercial contracts, specifically in the areas of telecommunications, construction services, and manufacturing.

According to Nalley, Tribally owned 8(a) companies, supervised by the Small Business Administration, are incredible economic engines for tribes. They can have a profound impact on a tribe. Some of these companies that are 8(a) classified have years and years of federal contracts in place. They employ a broad array of different people with different types of skill sets.

MNBE staff members pictured above, from left to right, are: Jim Taylor; Heather Daniels; Second Chief A.D. Ellis; Woody Anderson; and B.J. Waggnor. (Michael Nalley, manager, not pictured)

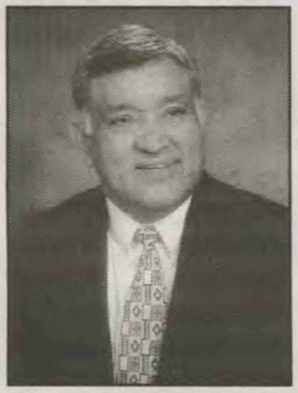
photo by Lucas Taylor

MNBE was featured in the May issue of the Muscogee Nation News and the successful business purchase of Complete Technology Concepts. Since that time the MNBE has grown, the addition of Heather Daniels, Woody Anderson, B.J. Waggnor, and Jim Taylor has helped to solidify the purpose, goals, and direction of the MNBE.

"Woody Anderson is helping us to direct our operations and business development efforts," stated Nalley. "B.J. Waggnor will be working in our telecommunications group and construction services group as a project manager. Right now with our company, this is really a start up company, so everybody is doing what-

please see **ENTERPRISE**..., page 5

From the Office of the Principal Chief... R. Perry Beaver



The summer heat has finally made way to cooler temperatures as we prepare for "Indian Summer" here at the Creek Nation. Ceremonial grounds are beginning their traditional ritual stick ball games and soon, we will observe the Council Oak ceremony in Tulsa. In addition, the Creek Council House Museum will host their annual Art Market and exhibits will feature many talented Native American artists. We are reminded of the rich cultural and traditional heritage that we possess as Creek citizens. Before there was a constitution and federal recognition, before self-governance and self-determination, before Indian housing and the Indian Health Service, before the BIA, there was a people. People who existed for thousands of years receiving sustenance from the land. Sustenance such as grape dumplings, sofkey, blue bread, wild onions, venison, squirrels, rabbits to name a few. These people also exercised their innate sense of spirituality and religion by worshiping the one who is over all "Oh-fvnkv" or Hesaketvmese". These people celebrated life through ceremonial song and dance and combined their spirituality in all aspects of their lives. Elders were highly revered and children were carefully taught by them in the cultural ways. Individual identity through clans and tribal towns was very important. Let us not lose sight of our culture and traditions for they are the heritage which bond us all together as Muscogee people. I encourage you to take time from busy schedules and the rigors of contemporary life-styles to get in touch with your heritage. It is an important part of your identity as a Creek citizen.

On a related note, in order to preserve the cultural identity which our forefathers established and to remain strong and viable as a people, I encourage you to participate in the governmental process by exercising your right to vote in tribal and state elections. As I mentioned in the last issue, there are far fewer registered voters than enrolled citizens. If you are registered, vote! If you are not, get registered! It's not only our right, it's our duty.

Tribal citizens thank National Council members

Editor:

I don't know each of you by name but we would like to say *mvto* just the same for the financial assistance we received for our daughter, Semi. Also, to each of you to fulfill a need, you were a part of a prayer come true. *Mvto*.

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Givens, Wetumka

Woman seeks information on relatives

Editor:

I was just wondering but my mom, Pauline Frye has given me some names of a few guys and I'm trying to find out who my dad is.

The one I have been told is my dad is Glenn Denton and if anyone knows of him or whereabouts he might be please contact me. One of his family I think is Penny Denton. This is their adoptive names I believe but still if you have any information let me know.

If Glenn Denton or any of his family see's this please I would love to find out if you are my dad or not, and my mom is Pauline Frye and my name is Sharon Frye.

Please feel free to contact me at P.O. Box 2048, Cherokee, N.C., 28719 or e-mail at berryflavor@hotmail.com.

Sharon Frye, Cherokee, North Carolina

Citizen needs help finding relatives

Editor:

Please help me locate and find my mother's family. Her mother is Sarah Ruth Harjo. She was Litff Harjo and Mary Nee's daughter. My mother's name is Retha.

If you have any information at all or know who I can contact, please call me at 916-421-5980. Thank you in advance.

Edward Johnson, Sacramento, California

Creek citizen gives thanks for support

Editor:

The Okmulgee Indian community center has a Indian taco slae on Aug. 15, and a volleyball tournament on April 16.

The fund raiser was sponsored by the Activities Committee of Okmulgee Indian community and the Senior citizens.

The community wanted to send our young people on a trip to White water in Oklahoma City.

The volleyball tournament had four teams entered: Native Players, Set Me; Yardeka; and Top Flight. First and second place were awarded T-shirts.

The Okmulgee Indian community seniors did not draw a opponent. The tournament was won by Native Players first place and seond place went to Set Me of Tulsa.

The community center would like to thank all the Mvskoke Nation employees who ordered Taco's from us and Thanks to all the communities for helping.

Esther Grona, Okmulgee

MUSCOGEE ELECTION 2003
VOTING PRECINCTS

Creek District
Bristow Indian Community Center — 121 West Lincoln
Sapulpa Indian Community Center — 1020 N. Brown
McIntosh District
Checotah Indian Community Center — 500 Owens
Eufaula Indian Community Center — 800 Forest Ave.
Hanna Indian Community Center — City Hall
Yardeka Indian Community Center — 8 miles southeast of Henryetta
Muskogee District
Muskogee Indian Community Center — 111 S. Virginia
Okfuskee District
Okemah Indian Community Center — 1100 S. Woody Guthrie Street
Weleetka Indian Community Center — 602 S. Chickasaw
Okmulgee District
Dewar Indian Community Center — 212 Luella St.
Okmulgee Indian Community Center — 2700 N. Miami
Tulsa District
Glenpool Indian Community Center — 13839 S. Casper
Tulsa Indian Community Center • 8611 S. Union
Tukvpvtce District
Dustin Indian Community Center — Corner of Sparks and Broadway streets
Holdenville Indian Community Center — 224 E. Poplar
Wetumka Indian Community Center — 608 N. Creek
Wagoner District
Koweta Indian Community Center — At the intersection of Hwy 51 and Ben Lumpkin Road, go 1/4 mile north to four way stop, turn right and go 1/8 mile east

All locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on September 20.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Lucas Taylor, managing editor
Gerald Wofford, feature writer/photographer
Denise Jacobs, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the June 28, regular session.

Absent were: **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

The council acted on Principal Chief **R. Perry Beaver's** veto message:

• approved (10-12-0) to let stand NCA 03-046, creating language revitalization and establishing the Mvskoke language division;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ronald Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

In order of business the Council:

• approved (15-6-0) Tribal Resolution 03-032, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a lease agreement with video gaming technologies for the use of space on Union avenue trust property with payment of rent income to Tulsa Creek Indian Community;

voting no were: **Judy Aaron,** Creek; **Sandra Parish,** Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden,** Okfuskee; **Sandra Peters**;

• approved as amended (15-6-0) TR 03-054, authorizing gaming operations authority board to execute contract with SGS, L.L.C. for the construction of additional parking and drainage improvements to the Muskogee Bingo Hall;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved unanimously (21-0-0) TR 03-056, authorizing the division of human development to prepare and submit an application for a community development block grant to obtain funding for the construction of an education building;

• return to committee (13-8-0) TR 03-057, approving the business plan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal trade and commerce authority for the construction of a funeral home in Okmulgee, Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa

• approved unanimously as amended (21-0-0) TR 03-060, authorizing the office of the Principal Chief to apply for a website domain name for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

due to a tie vote Speaker vote No

• failed on the floor (10-11-0) TR 03-061, confirming the renomination of **June Mustari** to the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Aaron,** Creek; **Warrington,** Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Gouge**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce;

abstain were: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Barnett** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) TR 03-062, confirming the renomination of **Linda Cusher** to the election board;

the council recess for an hour,

absent were **Wind**, Muskogee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved unanimously (17-0-0) TR 03-065, concurring and in agreement with the twelve (12) Oklahoma Tobacco compacting tribes (with the state of Oklahoma) to maintain the tobacco tax compacts at the current twenty five percent (25%);

representative **Almerigi** arrived prior to any action taken

• approved (17-1-0) TR 03-067, authorizing **Geri Wisner-Foley**, a citizen, to represent as an interim Muscogee (Creek) Nation ambassador for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at the United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland in working with the draft declaration on the rights of Indigenous peoples;

voting no were **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved (18-0-0) TR 03-068, approving the selection of contractors for rehabilitation of four vacant mutual help home, partial rehabilitation of one mutual help home and major foundation repair of one mutual help home;

• approved as amended (13-5-0) NCA 03-078, referendum on a proposed amendment of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation constitution to preserve to the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation the power to propose laws, and amendments to this constitution and to enact or and amendments to this constitution and to enact or reject the same at the polls independent of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, and also reserve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council;

voting no were: **Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved (13-5-0) NCA 03-096, amending NCA 97-07 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing a permanent grant program for churches and ceremonial grounds within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation), as amended by NCA 98-19, NCA 00-28, NCA 01-160, NCA 01-184, and NCA 01-213;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

• approved as amended (17-1-0) NCA 03-106, authorizing a special appropriation of funds to the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association to administer social services to citizens in the Oklahoma City area;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek;

representative **Cleghorn** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved as amended (12-6-0) NCA 03-108, authorizing a special appropriation to sponsor a Muscogee (Creek) citizen in the professional bull rider division on the national rodeo finals;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Lowe** was excused;

• approved as amended (13-4-0) NCA 03-111, authorizing a special appropriation to **Gloria R. Jobe** to attend the Canada cup international fastpitch futures tournament world junior (girls 17-19) in survey, British Columbia;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved as amended (13-4-0) NCA 03-114, establishing the positive outcomes assistance program under the human development committee of the National Council;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; B, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Nichols** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• return to committee (14-2-0) NCA 03-118, amending NCA 01-158 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing an appropriation for the burial assistance under established guidelines and to repeal NCA 89-130, NCA 91-56 and NCA 92-147) as amended by NCA 02-085, to add a new section four entitled "Grave digging assistance program"

voting no were: **Johnson**, Okmulgee and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Lewis** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved as amended (15-0-0) NCA 03-119, authorizing a special appropriation to hire a safety coordinator for the remainder of fiscal year 2003;

representative **Peters** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved as amended (16-0-0) NCA 03-121, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation division of tribal affairs for the purchase of a weather alert siren;

• approved (11-6-0) NCA 03-127, amending NCA 99-76, relating to the controller's authority;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Quiett**, Tulsa; and **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

representatives **Johnson** and **Parish** were out of seat at time of casting of vote

• return to committee (11-3-0) NCA 03-130, amending NCA 99-22 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation creating the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade & Commerce authority, establishing a board of trustees of the authority and defining the purpose and powers of the authority and its board of trustees), as amended by NCA 02-108, as amended by NCA 03-111, as amended by NCA 03-076, to include a removal provision for the board to trustees, to establish more specific power and duties and additional meeting guidelines for the board of trustees;

voting no were: **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; and **Peters**, Okmulgee;

• approved as amended (17-0-0) NCA 03-132, authorizing a special appropriation for **Geri Wisner-Foley**, a citizen, to represent as an interim Muscogee (Creek) Nation ambassador for the Switzerland in working with the draft declaration on the rights of Indigenous people;

• approved (14-3-0) NCA 03-133, authorizing a special appropriation to assist a Muscogee (Creek) citizen in the participation of an athletic event;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; and **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

• approved unanimously (17-0-0) NCA 03-134, authorizing a

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 7

Institute offers sports and educational opportunity

ALBUQUERQUE, NM — Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute offers an opportunity for those wanting to continue in the sport of running after high school and further their education skills at an affordable price.

SIPI provides a quality education at no cost to qualified members of federally recognized Indian Tribes, regardless if they are involved in sports activities or not. This would include room and board, books, and tuition. The only costs to the individual would be a one time deposit of $205 and a $20 per trimester activity fee.

The running program at SIPI was established in the fall of 1990. Since that time, SIPI has been awarded nine national team titles, nine national runner-up titles, 15 individual national champion awards, and 65 All-American honors.

The SIPI student-athlete is also successful in the classroom. Twenty SIPI students have been awarded Academic All-American honors while 5 teams have been bestowed this honor as well.

SIPI is a NCA accredited two-year institution that offers 29 degree or certificate programs. Whether you choose a certificate or degree program, SIPI will prepare you to enter an exciting technical career or to advance successfully to a bachelor's or higher degree.

It is the mission of SIPI to provide quality technical and higher education opportunities that meet the dynamic needs of federally recognized tribes.

For more information about the SIPI athletic program contact coach Michael Daney at (505) 346-2336/2332. For general information about SIPI call 1-800-586-7474 or visit their website, http://www.sipi.bia.edu.

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services is accepting applications for general assistance at field sites in Eufaula, Holdenville, Okemah, Muskogee and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Okemah Indian Community, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. – applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., O ct. 1 and 15 and Nov. 5 and 19;
- Eufaula Indian Community, 800 Forest Ave. – applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Oct. 2 and 16 and Nov. 6 and 20;
- Sapulpa Indian Health, 1125 E. Cleveland – applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Oct. 2 and 16 and Nov. 6 and 20;
- Holdenville Indian Community, 224 E. Poplar – applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Oct. 7 and 21 and Nov. 4 and 18; and
- Muscogee Indian Community, 111 S. Virginia – application will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Oct. 7 and Nov. 4.

Justice Department examines water rights

OKMULGEE — After nearly a century of presumptive state regulation of water resources, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Justice is examining the scope of the Nation's water rights, with a view toward asserting more control over the Nation's waters.

"Regulation of natural resources is one of the most fundamental attributes of sovereignty," said Attorney General Susan Work. "The Justice Department is committed to substantiating the Nation's water rights and making policy recommendations to the Principal Chief and National Council based on sound research."

The first step in that process was to secure Water Management, planning, and pre-development grants from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. During the past two years, the grants have helped offset some of the cost of conducting extensive legal and historical research and analyzing the scope of the Nation's water rights and regulatory authority.

Since January, Assistant Attorney General Jack Blair has guided the Water Rights Initiative.

"The United States promised in several treaties, that no state would ever extend its law over the Creek Nation," stated Blair. "Those promises were obviously broken over the years, but the Nation still retains every aspect of its original ownership and sovereign authority that congress has not taken away."

The purpose of the Water Rights Project is to develop a better understanding of the Nation's retained sovereignty over the waters, and, according to Work, to lay the groundwork for the Nation to step up and assume its rightful place in the management of its natural resources.

"The purpose of the Water Rights is to give us the ammunition to go to the state with confidence, knowing that the Nation's water rights are secure in law–and having the legal and factual documentation to back it up," stated Work.

The department is in the process of producing a comprehensive water resources report describing the legal foundation of the Nation's water rights. The report will also include a water resource atlas of the Muscogee Nation illustrating all of the water resources within the Nation's boundaries.

"We also plan to provide a draft water policy statement and draft water resource regulations for the National Council's consideration," Work said.

Blair estimates that the Comprehensive Water Resource Report and draft legislation could be submitted to the Council as soon as next year.

National Council candidate profile

Because of technical difficulties, Anderson Hale's candidate profile wasn't included in last month's candidate profile issue. The MNN staff apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused Anderson Hale and voters in the Oklmulge district.

Okmulgee District Seat C
Name: Anderson Hale
Age: 59
Residence: Mounds
Family: Spouse, Norma; son, William; and granddaughter, Anna
Parents/grandparents: The late Billy and Lucy Coker Hale; the late Gibson and Emma Coker; and the late Jasper and Maggie Hale
Clan: Beaver
Church: Snake Creek Indian Baptist Church
Tribal Town/Ceremonial ground: Fish Pond
Experience: have served six years as a National Council member for Okmulgee District
Reason for seeking office: education — Creek Nation must increase funds for higher education to help students and adults to help combat raising costs of tuition and other expenses related to higher education; **elderly** — I fully support the elderly housing units being built, but we must expand elderly housing units to each district. We must make sure that each tribal elder it treated with dignity and respect. Creek Nation must take more initiative in providing services to our elderly; **economic development** — as a tribe we need to be more innovative to help bring big business to Creek territory. In the future, we need to better advertise possible economic development ideas to the people of the Tribe. If elected I will fight for stronger and more creative lucrative economic development that will benefit the entire Tribe; and **housing** — Creek Nation has a new executive director that is helping the housing authority move in a more positive direction, however, there is room for improvement. With the Creek people's guidance and support, the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation and the National Council's collaborative effort can effectively serve its constituents. I would appreciate your vote on September 20.

Reunions

Fixico reunion

HOLDENVILLE — Family's of Nupsey Fixico Dunson and Amos/Ammon Fixico will be having their first family reunion on Sept. 27, beginning at 10 a.m. at Tekupuchee Church, located ten miles west of Wetumka on Hwy 9.

Everyone attending is being asked to bring a covered dish. For more information contact Vicky Watashe at (918) 756-8700 ext. 278.

Jones male academy reunion

HARTSHORNE— Jones Male Academy will have their annual reunion on October 18 at 10 a.m. There will be a gospel singing at 7 p.m.

For more information contact: Jimmy Bruner at (580) 298-3136; Ted LeFlore (580) 889-7989; Tully Choate (918) 455-7255, or Tom Williston (580) 286-3585.

Haskell reunion

WAGONER— Haskell alumni association invites all Haskell alumni and friends to attend the annual reunion on Oct. 24 through 26 at the Western Hills Lodge in Sequoyah State Park.

Contact the following for information on special room rates, reception party, Saturday golf, dinner/dance, and Sunday activities: Joyce Bear at (918) 756-8700 ext. 603 or e-mail: Cultural@ocevnet.org; or Leon Yahola at (918) 616-3757.

All Creek girls team complete last season of t-ball

OKMULGEE — Creek citizens from Okmulgee and the surrounding area completed their last season of t-ball .

Team Ladybugs, sponsored by Sonrise Heat and Air and Charlie's Chicken, consisted of all Creek girls. A majority of the team started playing together at the age of three and decided to stay together as a team.

The team celebrated their successful season by spending a day at Big Splash in Tulsa.

The team plans on staying together and moving up to coach pitch next year.

Team members were: Haley and Tea' VanStraten; Jasmine Buckley; Audrie Billie; Marissa Proctor; Mykalia Frank; Kaitlyn Factor; Destiny Dunn; Michelle Dunn; Hanna Gouge; Cheyenne Factor; Jade Stallings; and Christyn Barnett. The Ladybugs were coached by Richard Buckley, Daniel Factor, and Marva Proctor.

Members of the Ladybugs proudly display their individual trophies they received for league play. Pictured from left to right are: front row, Hanna Gouge; Jasmine Buckley; Audrie Billie; Michelle Dunn; Destiny Dunn; Kaitlyn Factor; Cheyenne Factor; Mykalia Frank; Marissa Proctor; and Tea' VanStraten; back row, Richard Buckley; Marva Proctor; Daniel Factor; and Haley VanStraten.

photo submitted

Education

Godley student receives academic awards

GODLEY, TX—Creek citizen Shanda Raychelle Campbell received many academic awards at the completion of her seventh grade school year at Godley Middle School.

Campbell received the following awards: outstanding student in science; outstanding student in pre-algebra; outstanding student in Texas History; top ten student plaque; honor roll excellence; excellence in citizenship; UIL academic contest of math, fifth place, number sense, third place, maps, graphs, and charts, second place; perfect attendance; and United States Achievement Academy All-American Scholar among Jr.-high school students.

She has been on the A-honor roll for six weeks and ranks first in her class. Shanda is also involved in volleyball, basketball, track, and band.

Shanda is the daughter of Danny Campbell of Godley, TX and Cindy Quicksall of Irving, TX.

Grandparents are Travis and Lillie Killingsworth Thomas of Meeker and Jim and Helen Hart of Checotah.

Her paternal grandfather is the late Dennis Campbell.

Great-great grandparents are the late Bryan and Naomi Riley Killingsworth and Norman and Laverne Campbell of Checotah.

Campbell is a descendent of the bear and raccoon clan.

Threadgill attends workshop for Writers

CHAUTAUQUA, NY — Belinda Threadgill of Ramsey, Minnesota, attended the 19th annual Highlights Foundation Writers workshop during the week of July 12 through 19.

The workshop offered the 80 writers, who came from three countries and 27 states, a full week in the world of writing for children. Participants worked closely with the 40 faculty members, sharing technical expertise, enthusiasm, and inspiration for children's writing.

As part of the program, Belinda met in manuscript consulting sessions with Jay Heale. Marileta Robinson served as Belinda's mentor for the conference.

The Highlights Foundation workshop faculty consisted of well-known writers, editors, publishers, and educators in the world of contemporary children's literature. Among them were: Joy Cowley; Patricia Gauch; Peter Jacobi; Susan Campbell Bartoletti; Larry Brimner; Pam Munoz Ryan; and Laurence Pringle, as well as editors of *Highlights for Children*, the national publication for young people from two to 12.

The 129 year-old Chautauqua Institution is a national pioneer in combining education, cultural events, and leisure activities in a beautiful lake front setting in western New York State.

Birth

Ty'Ray PoorBuffalo

ADA— Ty'Ray PoorBuffalo was born May 17 at Carl Albert Hospital to Carl and Shanna Rae PoorBuffalo.

He weighed seven pounds and eight ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Billy Ray and Marcella Jones of Broken Bow. Great grandmothers are Martha Jones of Broken Bow and the late Lucille Bear.

Paternal grandparents are Micky and Jeanette Weryackwe of Lawton. Great grandparents are: Lewis PoorBuffalo Sr. and Sarah Tofpi, both of Carnegie; and Henry and LeQuita Tomahsah of Lawton.

Ty'Ray is of the Creek, Choctaw and Kiowa descent.

PoorBuffalo

Birthdays

Elder celebrates his 87th birthday

MOUNDS– July Tulsa celebrated his 87th birthday on July 6 at his home.

Tulsa Family

July was born to the late Joe and Sinda Biggs Tulsa of Bristow. He was married to the late Mae Long Tulsa.

Honoring his birthday with a gospel singing were four generations of the Tulsa family and friends. He enjoys going to church at Pickett Chapel.

Tulsa belongs to the Wind clan and is from the Locvpokv tribal town.

Enterprise

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ever we need them to do. Our roles can change everyday as we pursue opportunities."

"We have formed even more strategies to win federal contracts," stated Michael Nalley. " We are teaming with quality companies that are federal contractors and perform well in areas where we are targeting and by aligning ourselves with these companies, it helps us build our statement of qualifications."

Currently, the company has developed a working relationship with The Ross Group, Northrop Grumman, Tetra Tech, and is presently working with Nordam.

According to Nalley, these business ventures would help build a business centered in federal contracting that will benefit the tribe for years to come. MNBE has identified three primary areas, telecommunications, construction, and manufacturing. MNBE has teamed with strategic partners in those primary areas with the purpose of winning federal contracts in those areas. Once those federal contracts are secured, it will create revenue and career opportunities for people in a number of different areas, ranging from general construction, to working on a repair line for a Nordam award.

The primary focus is to concentrate on contract opportunities that are in Kansas City, through Oklahoma, and down to Ft. Worth, Texas. MNBE is trying to stay within a 200 to 300 mile radius of our jurisdictional areas to provide immediate opportunities for Creek citizens.

According to Nalley, MNBE is currently working on 15 different opportunities. The latest is a contract with Altus Air Force Base. MNBE is currently negotiating a five year multi year contract with a maximum value of $25 million dollars. MNBE has teamed with the Ross group on this project and this will be their first primary win.

Nalley envisions MNBE to have a firm $25 to $30 million dollar pipeline of business and employee a full-time staff of 25 to 35 people.

Spotlight

> "We raised her Creek, even though she is Chipewa. She knows and has spoken the language since she was little." —Elmer Haynes.

..."and Catherine makes seven."

by Gerald Wofford

It is said that if a man can care for something that was never given to him and he had to search for it in order to get it, then he truly has love in his heart. For Elmer and Roxie Haynes, the statement holds true, along with lots of wisdom.

The Haynes are in their mid-60's, and reside in Prague, Oklahoma. Elmer grew up near Henryetta where he attended Hickory Ground #1 Baptist Church. Roxie grew up in the Strother community near Seminole.

Elmer and Roxie always believed in raising a big family. They have six children to prove that. First came Curtis, then twins Delbert and Delberta made the nest count to three. Andrea, Karen, and James weren't too far behind. Six makes for a good round number, but seven is the number for perfection they say.

So did Elmer and Roxie say to themselves, "Hey, well, I guess that's it, lets retire and wait for the grandchildren to start coming in." No. Instead they decided to adopt a newborn Chipewa girl by the name of Catherine.

"We knew the responsibility we were taking on," said Roxie. "We had just raised six kids. What we were mainly concerned about is if our other children were going to accept her (Catherine) as part of the family. We talked to the kids to let them know what we were going to do. And of course, they all accepted her just fine."

Elmer and Roxie also knew it would be important for them as a couple to bring Catherine into the fold naturally, as truly one of their own. It was one specific incident that brought the point completely home.

"When I would tell someone about our children, I would say each one by name and then when I would introduce Catherine," said Roxie. "I would say, and this is our adopted daughter, Catherine. So one day she told me, mom, why do you tell them I'm adopted, it bothers me. So after that day I quit saying that."

From then on, the Haynes family made sure that Catherine would receive everything that all the other children in the family had received. Not only the acceptance of love and understanding, but discipline and punishment if needed. The couple even began to teach young Catherine all about the Muscogee Culture. Soon Catherine was even speaking the language and felt totally ingrained and one with her family. In fact, Catherine probably received more of well rounded education about tribal Native American life than others who never faced such a unique situation. Elmer and Roxie would take Catherine to stomp dances, powwows, and Creek churches.

It was a life's commitment. But the love and care of the Haynes family would become a great influence on Catherine.

As Catherine grew up and studied hard in school, she became an honor student. Last May, Catherine graduated valedictorian of her class at Prague High School. She was also selected as an All State in softball, competing in the All State games in Norman during the summer.

Even though the Haynes family gave Catherine all that they had, Elmer and Roxie respected Catherine's Chipewa heritage and her family roots. They felt it was best she knew who her real parents were and they knew how to get in touch with them.

The biological parents of Catherine, who were no longer together, were living in Minnesota, so Elmer and Roxie took Catherine to meet them.

Time can heal all wounds, but love has a lot to do with it as well. Because of the well grounded life and security that Catherine had received from growing up in a caring home, the meeting was a success. No vented feelings or bitterness was evident from anyone. In fact, when Catherine graduated this past spring from high school, the two made the trek from Minnesota to Oklahoma to congratulate Catherine on making such a milestone in her life. Elmer and Roxie weren't surprised to see them. However, they were all surprised by what they heard from them next.

"Because they felt they weren't ready to raise a child at that time, they both said they were glad that they made the right choice in giving me up for adoption," said Catherine. "I am glad I was raised by these parents too."

Catherine just started her first year at Seminole State College and works at the Prague First National Bank.

The story of Elmer and Roxie has influenced others as well. They know of a couple who live in the Seminole area who recently adopted a girl. The couple are in their sixties.

"A lot of the people who live around us saw us adopt this little girl at an older age," said Elmer. "They told us you must have a lot of guts, I said no, you just got to have a lot of love."

Council

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special appropriation to Bristow Indian Bingo hall for expenses related to the purchase of a cooling system;

• approved unanimously (17-0-0) NCA 03-137, authorizing a special appropriation to a certain elder creek citizen for medical expenses;

June 30 Special session

Absent were: **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa;

In order of business the Council:

• approved as amended (19-1-0) TR 03-066, pledging funds to the Okmulgee county family YMCA for the construction of water play park;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner

• approved (19-1-0) NCA 03-116, appropriating a "Safe and Stable Families" fiscal year 2003 grant match for children and family services administration and authorizing expenditure;

voting no were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) NCA 03-117, appropriating a title IV-B subpart 1 "Child Welfare Services" Fiscal Year 2003 Grant match for children and family services administration and authorizing expenditure;

• approved (18-2-0) NCA 03-131, authorizing a special appropriation to the Okmulgee County YMCA for the construction of a water play park;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee and **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce;

representative **Nichols** was out of seat at time of casting of vote

• approved as amended (18-1-0) NCA 03-138, authorizing a budget modification for the contract health services budget;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• approved unanimously (20-0-0) NCA 03-142, a special appropriation to the modification of the Holdenville Creek Indian Community center to meet minimum educational standard requirements in order to lease these facilities to the Holdenville public school system;

• approved (12-8-0) NCA 03-143, a special appropriation to a Muscogee (Creek) citizen to participate in culture activities and powwows during the summer of 2003 to promote healthy lifestyles for Native Americans;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner

July 26 Quarterly session

Absent were: **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa;

The council acted on Principal Chief **R. Perry Beaver's** veto message:

• approved (15-7-0) to let stand NCA 03-114, establishing the positive outcomes assistance program under the Human Development committee of the National Council;

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

In order of business the Council:

• approved (13-8-0) TR 03-010, authorizing the execution of an attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Trueblood Kitto, P.C.;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; and **Quiett**, Tulsa;

• approved (18-3-0) TR 03-50, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute a contract for the purchase of land in Hughes County, Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; and **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• die in council (all in favor by voice vote) TR 03-069, recognizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation community partnership board;

• approved (20-1-0) TR 03-071, authorizing the Principal Chief to request certain property in Tulsa, Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Jackson**, Okfuskee;

• approved as amended (18-3-0) TR 03-077, amending TR 03-030 (a tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation gaming operations authority board to exercise temporary jurisdiction and control over the Okemah Indian gaming center;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee;

representative **Johnson** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved as amended (17-1-1) TR 03-078, approving the business plan of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Trade & Commerce authority for the Azteca-Omega enterprises, Inc.

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek;

abstain were: **Peters**, Okmulgee;

representative **Nichols** was excused;

• approved (11-7-0) NCA 03-035, appropriating funds to partially fund an attorney agreement with Trueblood Kitto, P.C.

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; and **Quiett**, Tulsa;

• NCA 03-095 and NCA 03-97 was postponed until August meeting;

• approved as amended (12-7-0) NCA 03-105, amending NCA 99-117 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing the fixed compensation of the Second Chief and repealing NCA 91-100, NCA 83-46, and any other legislation in conflict with this act), to increase the fixed compensation for the Second Chief;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

representative **Nancy Watson** requested to change her vote to NO, with the vote being (11-8-0);

representatives **Cleghorn** and **Fields** were excused;

• return to committee (11-5-0) NCA 03-118, amending NCA 01-158 (an law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing an appropriation for the burial assistance under established guidelines and to repeal NCA 89-130, NCA 92-56 and NCA 92-147) as amended by NCA 02-085, to add a new section four entitled "Grave digging assistance program;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved as amended (16-0-0) NCA 03-126, authorizing a special appropriation to purchase championship rings for two Muscogee (Creek) citizens of the Eufaula Public School;

representative **McIntosh** was excused;

• approved as amended (11-4-0) NCA 03-128, authorizing a special appropriation to the office of the Principal Chief and the National Council;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; and **Golden**, Okfuskee;

• return to committee (all in favor by voice vote) NCA 03-129, creating a criminal offenses code for purposes of codification in Title 14 of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved as amended (15-0-0) NCA 03-141, authorizing a special appropriation for the business enterprise board for funds to be used for operating and other expenses;

• return to committee (all in favor by voice vote) NCA 03-145, revising the FY 2001 Indian Housing plan as approved by NCA 01-90 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the FY 2001 Indian Housing plan) and as revised by NCA 03-061;

• approved (15-0-0) NCA 03-147, providing for cultural improvement maintenance and preservation of the Muscogee (Creek) Mound building and appropriating funds for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound building;

• approved as amended (15-0-0) NCA 03-153, appropriating funds to be placed into a restricted account by Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise for purpose of procuring an irrevocable letter of credit of secure construction bonding;

July 29 Special session

Absent were: **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; and **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa;

In order of business the Council:

• approved (19-0-0) TR 03-085, approving the Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Business plan with the Ross Group, L.L.C.

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron**, Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Ron Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 03-162, amending section 109.D of NCA 99-10 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation creating a business enterprise of the Muscogee Nation, establishing a board of directors of the enterprise and defining the purpose and powers of the enterprise and its board of directors) relating to approval of business plans of business enterprise;

Shop talk with Gerald

Congratulations to Head Coach Eric Brock and Haskell Indians Nations University Football team on winning their season opener 12 to 0 against Waldorf College. The win gives the team from Lawrence, Kansas on a two game winning streak dating back to last year's win over Southwest Assemblies of God University, 30 to 20. Not that big of a deal until you consider that the team had finally broken a 23 game losing streak. When major universities, such as Vanderbilt, are dropping their athletic program due to a lack of success, many people were questioning why Haskell would want to continue. But Coach Brock has been committed to the program by making sure the Indians football team sees brighter days. If you get a chance, check the team out when they travel to the Indian Bowl in Muskogee to take on Bacone Warriors on Saturday, October 18.

Speaking of October 18, this will be the same day for another Creek Nation Tulsa Casino Fight Night. Although the card has not been officially released, Creek Nation's own B.J. Waggnor will be part of the scheduled boxing lineup. Hopefully, the Haskell Bacone game will be played in the afternoon in order for sports fans to attend both spectacular events.

The University of Oklahoma will be playing the University of Missouri down in Norman the same day. It was against this same opponent a year ago that saw Muscogee (Creek) citizen Matt McCoy throw the go-ahead touchdown pass. If you have been keeping up with the Sooners, which I'm sure you have, this season's opener against North Texas State saw McCoy grab an interception. Good work Matt!

Big congratulations also goes out to Sequoyah Indian School in Tahlequah for their season opening victory over Gore, 43 to 0. Not a bad way to start the season.

Of course there is still a lot of Independent softball to be played in the area. The Choctaw and Cherokee softball tournaments finished up earlier this month. Of course Creek Nation got theirs all finished up during the hot month of June. The cool relief of fall can make us forget just how much we were all burning up during the festival. Go out and support these Independent teams if you can. Sometimes its the only venue that you get to see and appreciate good Native American talent. If its still just a bit too warm for you, always remember, the gloves will soon be coming off and the basketball courts will open. The Creek Nation is known for putting on a high caliber softball tournament. Maybe they can do the same for basketball in the winter. Just a thought.

Back to the fight game. Edwin Marshall, Coordinator of the Creek Nation's Economic Development program, has a Toughman contest scheduled for Saturday, September 20 at 7 p.m. The event will be held at the Claude Cox Omniplex. It is labeled as a single elimination amateur boxing tournament. The event will feature two categories with a winner take all schedule. The categories are 0 to 185 pounds and 185 and up. Considering this is also the voting day for Creek Nation Tribal elections, that billing may be true in more ways than one. Go out and support this event if you can.

We hope you have enjoyed our little piece of sports insight on this first article of Shop Talk. Of course, we want to cover and promote the Creek athletes, whether its at the high school, college, independent, or professional level. Our featured articles on Keith Bucktrot and Sammie Rabbit is evident of that. But you, the valued Creek reader, can certainly help turn this sports page into a better one. Please submit any information you may have on any Creek athletes you know of that deserves the recognition. We definitely want to let everyone know about their lives and their accomplishments.

Rabbit works hard to help team reach next level

by Gerald Wofford

Whenever Wilson Sophomore Sammie Rabbit takes the mound, her head coach Christina Williams knows good things are going to happen.

"She has such great speed for a sophomore," said Williams.

The coach says Rabbit's pitches have been clocked at a speed of 60 m.p.h.. Rabbit is quick to correct, 69! She knows the actual speed because she was clocked while playing this past summer in the American Softball Association (ASA) summer league for the Okmulgee Phillies.

Rabbit's association with the Phillies has been a successful one. Last year the team won the girl's softball World Series for their age group, 16 & under. Although Rabbit claims they were usually pitted against older teams in a different age group.

"Our league was 16 & under, but we played mainly 18 year old teams," said Rabbit. "But we didn't mind."

Rabbit's ability to control her pitches, like the curves and change up, is also evident in her plans for the future.

"I want to play softball for the U.S. Olympic Team," Rabbit states without hesitation. "I also want to play softball for Arizona University".

Rabbit continues to work on her pitching and that is what makes Coach Williams believe that Rabbit can make it to the next level.

"She continues to play during the summer, and you have to play every season," states Coach Williams. "She continues to work year round. And she even makes time to play high school basketball."

Williams should know her softball. The first year Wilson Coach was an all-stater at Bixby High School. She played at Eastern Oklahoma State College where she was named an All-American and her team took fifth in the Junior College Softball Nationals.

Williams wasn't looking to coach, but was asked by the administration to do so. She has no assistant coaches, but with players like Rabbit doing the pitching, she isn't worried.

"Right now we are ranked fifth in class A and expect our team to make the state playoffs, something this team has never done," Williams says with a smile.

Bucktrot

continued from page 1

Phillies in 2000, Lakewood Phillies in 2001, and the Clearwater farm team in 2002. He recently has been promoted to the Reading Phillies, a double A farm club.

Bucktrot feels the past season was very instrumental in his class elevation to double A.

"Overall, this past season was my best in my pro career," said Bucktrot.

In his brief time with Reading he has posted three wins and two loss record, with a Earned Run Average (ERA) of 2.56. Bucktrot also showcased his batting skills by hitting three home runs during his pitching time.

"I learned a lot," stated the Creek hurler. "My record (with Clearwater) shows I got 10 wins throughout the year and my ERA was the lowest so far."

Bucktrot was called up to double A duty on July 25, after having spent an entire year with Clearwater. The move, although greatly appreciated, was tough on Bucktrot because of the friendships and loyalty he had received there.

"It was kind of tough leaving the team," he stated. "We finished just two games out of first place in our division. We were having such a blast!"

It is that type of team athmosphere that is very popular with the mainstream media and the fans in general. Books and movies, such as *Bull Durham*, are evident of attempting to immulate the life of a minor league ball player. Bucktrot says there are some similarities, but life in the minors is not all a movie.

"It can be like that, guys messing around playing guitars and stuff while traveling on the bus," stated Bucktrot. "You do get the chance to make a lot of friends and see a lot of country. I have seen where teams have pulled the playing tarp up or let the water sprinkler run all night just so a game could be cancelled the next day."

He does admit the hardest part, if their is one, of playing professional ball has been the absence of family.

"Being so far away from my family, especially my girlfriend Ashley, and not seeing them everyday can be tough sometimes," he stated

But Bucktrot is serious about becoming a better player and like minor league athletes, the chance to make the majors is a priority. During the off season, he will go home to Claremore and train and stay in shape. He works out at the local high school and helps the baseball coaches at his alma-mater by advising the high school athletes.

Bucktrot will be leaving shortly to play baseball in the Arizona Fall League. The league, which starts September 25, will bring together the top players from the double A farm teams from the Boston Red Sox, Oakland A's, Cleveland Indians, Pittsburgh Pirates, and the Philadelphia Phillies.

This Creek athlete knows that a minor league athlete must be ready at any time when the door opens for the Major Leagues. He advises young Indian athletes to do the same.

"It took me a while to realize if I didn't stay in school or keep my grades up my chances of being drafted would not be good," said Bucktrot. "Baseball scouts look at your entire lifestyle and personality to see what kind of person you are. Work hard, always work hard."

Creek girl participates in little league football

• See society, page 4

Dr. William Harjo LoneFight, President of Sisseton Wahpeton College

• Story page 5

SPORTS

Weleetka rolls on in hopes of a repeat

• Story page 8

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Ellis makes history in primary election

OKMULGEE — Current Second Chief A.D. Ellis made history by being the first chief candidate to receive over 51 percent (1905) of the votes during the primary election, deciding the office of principal chief without a general election race.

"I felt great, my supporters told me that would happen, but it was hard for me to believe, stated Ellis in a recent MNN interview. "It was a great satisfaction that the people spoke. I think they have a lot of confidence in me."

Ellis' closest contender was Bill S. Fife who received 33 percent (1229) out of the 3,675 votes cast on Sept. 20. The finishing order is as follows:

- Samuel S. Alexander, 292 (7.95 percent); and
- Valeria Henneha Littlecreek, 249 (6.78 percent).

The office of second chief will be decided in the Nov. 8 general election race between Alfred L. Berryhill and Curtis Hicks.

One area Ellis plans on targeting is economic development within the tribe.

"I see a lot of things that have been happening, we haven't had any economic development in several years," state Ellis. " This past year the National Council, by tribal law, put me in charge of all this as Chairman of the Board and brought some excellent people in here and things are beginning to move. I think within the next two to three years we're going to be as aggressive as some of these other tribes that are really progressing. I want to be a part of it."

Ellis also listed other areas as priorities in his administration.

"One of my priorities that I've thought about all along is our Omni-plex," said Ellis. "I want to keep it operating. I want to see different programs come in and see it active year round. I'm going to present to the Council a proposal to build an all-purpose building. I don't know if it will take grants or proposals specifically, but I envision an all-purpose building with a basketball gymnasium and with plenty of room for our ceremonial dances. In order to have that we've got to have infrastructure there. We've got to work with the City of Okmulgee on the sewers and water lines. Right now we have a great relationship with the City of Okmulgee.

In regards to infrastructure, Ellis stated there will won't be any drastic changes in staff when he takes office in January.

"Normal changes occur when a new Chief comes in, there are several offices that expire when his term does. There will be some changes, some departmental changes, but as far as the average employees are concerned, their job is going to go on."

Asked if there is any message you would like to give to the Creek citizens, whether it be about the election or what they can expect in your term as principal chief, he answered, "well, I would like to thank the people for supporting and having confidence in me. By the way I won the election, I think the people are expecting me to do great things, and I plan on doing them."

Creek citizen crowned OU Ruf Nek Queen

The Ruf-Neks, a student organization, help get the Sooners fans into a frenzy by yelling, screaming, and shooting blanks into the air from their makeshift rifles on the sidelines. They also help drive the team of horses and wagon at every home game. The driver does not travel alone, but is accompanied by a young lady, aptly titled, *The Ruf-Nek Queen*. The new Queen is announced at the annual Red and White football scrimmage at the end of spring practices. There the Queen takes her place in the passenger seat of the Sooner Schooner. This year's Queen is Muscogee (Creek) citizen Meagan Moore. Moore, who is a graduate of Morris High School, is a pre-nursing major at OU with a psychology minor. "My first time being the Ruf-Nek Queen at a football game it rained," says Moore. "But the second game I finally got my chance. I can't explain how it feels. Its such a rush of excitement and school spirit. "Moore is the daughter of Muscogee Tribal Judge Patrick Moore and wife Jill. *photo submitted*

Native American Film Festival to be held

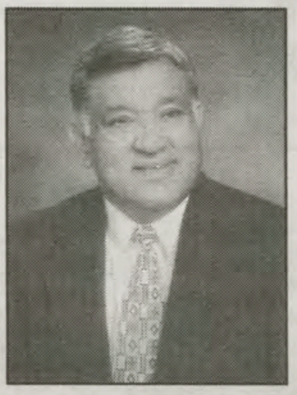
OKMULGEE — The Red Fork Native American Film Festival, formerly the Muscogee Film Festival, will be held Nov. 13 through 15 at Tulsa Community College West Campus, 7505 W. 41st St.

The highlight of the festival will be a traditional Maskoke dinner and a Philbert look a like contest on Nov. 15 following the showing of "Powwow Highway" at 7:30 P.M. "Powwow Highway" is a classic Indian film from 1989 starring Gary Farmer, as Philbert, on a quest riding his war-pony.

The festival and dinner is free of charge, however, donations will be accepted at the door for future festivals and a student scholarship fund.

For a complete schedule of the Red Fork Native American Film Festival, visit our website at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov or contact Gerald Wofford at (918) 756-8700, ext. 7635 or e-mail at comm1@ocevnet.org.

From the Office of the Principal Chief... R. Perry Beaver



Another primary election has come and gone and the Nation has selected a new leader. Second Chief A.D. Ellis was elected on the first ballot as the new Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. That, in itself, was quite an accomplishment considering the fact there were four qualified candidates seeking the position. Our congratulations to Second Chief Ellis and our commendations to the other candidates. I am confident that A.D. will continue to lead the nation in the positive and progressive direction that it's headed. Many issues lie ahead for the Principal Chief including expansion of economic development initiatives, various compact negotiations, federal policy and rulemaking discussions, housing, health, education and social welfare, to name a few. Support for new leaders is essential and if the vote is any indicator, A.D., can count on the citizens.

We also congratulate the successful candidates for the various National Council positions. I feel that the nation and its citizens can look forward to an exciting and productive, yet challenging, era in tribal government. While there are a few positions to be determined in the upcoming General Election on November 8th, the citizen voters have my utmost confidence that they will select the most competent and capable leaders in the Second Chief and Representative posts. Remember that it is as important to vote in the runoff elections as in the primary. Many times the turnout is lighter and every vote is very important. I encourage you to express your voice through your ballot.

Finally, as we complete the remainder of this term, the role of tribal administration moves on and support in the completion of those projects that were initiated in this administration are essential. Major development/construction projects and ongoing tribal initiatives will continue to be my priority.

Muscogee Nation starts volunteer program

Editor:

This letter is to inform all departments and agencies of the Vnicv' Senior Volunteer Program. This program was established to provide a needed service in communities and to honor senior volunteers who give of their personal time as a volunteer. When a volunteer signs up he or she is given a t-shirt that states "helper" on the back with the word Vnicv' above it. These shirts can be worn when a person volunteers and to familiarize others with the Vnicv' senior volunteer program. Once a year a banquet will be planned to honor all of the volunteers and certificates will be handed out. The volunteers are asked to report each month how many hours they volunteered. A calendar or timesheet is placed in their file to keep track and at the end of the year a total of all volunteer hours will be displayed at the banquet. I am looking for agencies or departments that might be able to use some volunteers. You may need them for just a few hours or maybe all day. I would like for Creek Nation to utilize the volunteerism effort and also promote acceptance of an elderly person. Many of our elders are libraries of knowledge and have skills they can use to help us. If you would like to use a volunteer let me know and I can contact them for you. You may contact me at 918-732-7723.

Gloria Narcomey-Bezzell, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Gloria is the Senior Services manager.

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

I want to take this opportunity to thank all Creek Citizens who supported and had confidence in me during the Principal Chief's Election. All the hard work and dedication has provided the opportunity to help move the nation forward to new goals and a new administration. Also, thanks to my three opponents for a very aggressive and well organized campaign. **Bill Fife**, **Sam Alexander** and **Valeria Littlecreek** represented their supporters very well.

I was very disappointed in the number of voters that participated in this election. Nearly 3,800 votes out of over 14,000 registered voters is not a good percentage. Some way we must get our Creek people more interested in our nation and the elected people who operate our government. If we want changes, we have to do it at the ballot box, by our vote.

I have been notified that our Senior Services Manager is planning a Veterans Day Program so we would like to see as many citizens as possible this year take part honoring our Creek men and women veterans.

I'm hoping by next month I can get back to writing a more informative 'Second Opinion' section. Lately it has been a hit and miss, due to the long campaign. I received many comments about the section and look forward to next year and maybe the "First Opinion."

Thanks again to so many people who offered their prayers for my family during the campaign. We are grateful. *Mvto.*

National Council candidate thanks supporters

Editor:

My name is Eastman Whitlow, seeking Seat C in Okmulgee District. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Okmulgee absentee and precinct locations for your vote or support on September 20.

I am asking for your vote on November 8th.

Eastman Whitlow, Morris

Legal Notices

Published in *The Muscogee Nation News*, Volume 32,
Issue 9, October 2003
Cause CD No. 2003-06074-T

Applicant: Little River Energy Company
Relief Sought: Pooling
Land Covered: SE/4 of Section 5, Township 17 North, Range 7 East, Creek County, Oklahoma Cause CD. No. 2003-06074-T

Notice of Hearing

STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO: Amy Simpson Bruner, Erica Harjo, Susie Simpson Harjo, Christopher Mitchell, Melissa Ann Mitchell, Sam Mitchell, Willie W. Murphy, Thomas M. Ashwood, Trustee of the Patsy R. Shanks Trust, Frank Ross Billingslea, Margaret C. Billingslea, Elizabeth K. Cotner, Don

please see **LEGAL**..., page 6

Muscogee Nation News

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Lucas Taylor, managing editor
Denise Jacobs, editorial assistant
Gerald Wofford, photography/writer
Ruth Bible, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the August 7, special session.

Absent were: **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee District; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee District; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee District; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee District; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee District; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee Distict; **Dwayne Lowe,** Tukvpvtce District; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce District; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; and **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District;

A quorum was not established. Second speaker **Hufft** allowed fifteen (15) to establish a quorum.

August 25, regular session

Absent were: **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee District; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee District; and **David Nichols**, Okmulgee District;

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

The council acted on Principal Chief **R. Perry Beaver's** veto message:

• approved (22-0-0) to let stand NCA 03-010, authorizing the execution of an attorney agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Trueblood Kitto, P.C.

voting yes were (representatives listed by district): **Judy Aaron,** Creek; **Phyllis Warrington**, Creek; **Roger Barnett**, Creek;**Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Sandra Golden**, Okfuskee; **Keeper Johnson**, Okmulgee; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Sandra Peters**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Thomas Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa; **Ronald Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa; **Jesse Kelley**, Tulsa; **Richard Berryhill**; and **Barbara Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• approved (22-0-0) to let stand NCA 03-035, appropriating funds to partially fund an attorney agreement with Trueblood Kitto P.C.;

• approved (20-3-0) to override NCA 03-126, authorizing a special appropriation to purchase championship rings for two Muscogee (Creek) citizens of the Eufaula public school;

voting no were: **Johnson,** Okmulgee; **Lowe,** Tukvpvtce; **Fields,** Tukvpvtce;

• approved (22-1-0) to override NCA 03-147, providing for cultural improvement maintenance and preservation of the Muscogee (Creek) mound building and appropriating funds for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation mound building;

voting no were: **Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

In order of business the Council:

• approved (22-0-0) TR 03-063, approving a memorandum of understanding between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the American Red Cross;

• approved (22-0-0) to postpone TR 03-081, approving the "Standard form of agreement between owner and design/builder" and "modification to the standard for agreement between ovwner and design/builder, part 2 agreement "between The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the SGS, LLC;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 03-082, approving a disinterment/re-interment plan for the re-interment of Human remains and/or cultural items that may be found at the Muscogee Technology Park, Columbus, GA.;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 03-084, approving a comprehensive agreement between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the U.S. Army Infantry center Ft. Benning, GA. related to re-interment of human remains and/or cultural items that may be found at Fort Benning;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 03-084, approving an easement on approximately one acre of land at Fort Benning, GA, from the U.S. Army Infantry center, Fort Benning, to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 03-086, authorizing the executive branch to identify and conduct a comparability study of cost for purchasing properties with or without pre-existing structure in the city of Okemah, Oklahoma to house the chartered Okemah Indian community and social programs for tribal citizens;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 03-087, approving the selection of contractors for partial rehabilitation of four mutual help homes and total rehabilitation of one vacant mutual help home;

• approved (22-0-0) TR 03-088, confirming the nomination of **Larry Joe Cahwee** to serve on the board of commissioners for the housing authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma;

• approved (19-3-0) TR 03-090, confirming the nomination of **Garry Berryhill, Sr**. to serve as the office of public gaming commissioner;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; and **Peters**, Okmulgee;

• approved (17-5-0) TR 03-091, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an engagement letter with **John M. Arledge & Associates**, Inc. for the performance of the FY 2003 annual audit;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Quiett**, Tulsa;

• approved (22-0-0) NCA 03-062, appropriating funds for the Checotah Indian Community for the expansion project of its gaming facility in Checotah, Oklahoma.

• approved as amended (20-2-0) NCA 03-078, require a referendum on a proposed amendment of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation constitution to reserve to the citizens of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation the power to propose laws, and amendments to this constitution and to enact or reject the same at the polls independent of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, and also reserve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Almerigi**,Okmulgee;

• approved as amended (22-0-0) NCA 03-095, appropriating funds for the purchase of real property in Hughes county, Oklahoma;

• approved as amended (22-0-0) NCA 03-118, amending NCA 01-158 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing an appropriation for the burial assistance under established guidelines and to repeal NCA 89-130, NCA 91-56 and NCA 92-147) as amended by NCA 02-085, to add a new section four entitled "Grave digging assistance program"

representative **Lowe** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

• approved as amended (21-0-0) NCA 03-135, authorizing a supplemental appropriation to Creek Nation Head Start for telephone services provided by Exp@net;

• return to committee (22-0-0) NCA 03-145, revising the FY 2001 Indian Housing plan as approved by NCA 01-90 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the FY 2001 housing plan) and as revised by NCA 03-061;

• return to committee (22-0-0) NCA 03-148, repealing NCA 01-228 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending NCA 92-109 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation adopting a physical plant maintenance & capital improvement policy), as amended by NCA 97-81;

speaker **Gouge** relinquished the Chair to Second speaker **Robert Hufft** to address NCA 03-149;

• failed (6-16-0) NCA 03-149, authorizing a special appropriation to financially assist a Muscogee (Creek) poet;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

• postponed (22-0-0) NCA 03-154, authorizing a special appropriation to fund the 2003-04 school diabetes "Move It" of the Okmulgee County Health department and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation diabetes program;

• approved as amended (22-0-0) NCA 03-156, authorizing a special appropriation to the Sapulpa Creek Indian community center for facility repairs;

• approved as amended (12-10-0) NCA 03-157, repealing NCA 96-58 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds and establishing guidelines for the school clothing programs) establishing guidelines forthe school clothing programs and appropriating funds;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; **Warrington**, Creek; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

representatives **Almerigi**, **Pickering** and **Watson** were out of seat as time of casting of vote;

• approved (19-0-0) NCA 03-158, amending NCA 01-158 as codified in Title 4 of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, entitled "burial/cemeteries," related to burial assistance guidelines as amended by NCA 02-085;

• approved (16-6-0) NCA 03-161, amending NCA 03-074 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating and authorizing expenditure of funds for the demolition of the old housing authority offices and construction of a new office structure) to authorize the Prinicpal Chief to execute a contract for demolition services and a contract for construction services;

voting no were: **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

please see **COUNCIL**..., page 4

Education

Girl participates in little league football team

LIBERTY MOUNDS — Cheyanne Stone is starting right tackle for the Liberty Tigers 3rd and 4th grade little league football team.

She also is involved in playing softball and basketball. Cheyanne is involved with the local church youth programs and maintains good grades.

Stone is the daughter of Tim and Leslie Stone of Liberty Mounds.

Maternal grandparents are Felix and Gloria Haynes of Okmulgee.

Stone

Muscogee boy voted most valuable player

LIBERTY MOUNDS— Tribal citizen, Timothy Stone II, from Liberty Mounds High School, was voted most valuable player on defense as catcher for the Frisco Valley Conference as a junior.

Stone is now a senior and plays both the catcher and pitcher positions. His batting average is 383 and his throw ratio if 87.5%.

Timothy is currently playing in a fall baseball wooden bat league.

He is the son of Tim and Leslie Stone of Liberty Mounds.

Maternal grandparents are Felix and Gloria Haynes of Okmulgee.

Stone

Births

Chase To dabe san Adams

TULSA — Chase To dabe san Adams was born on May 30 at St. Francis Hospital to Ryan and Nedra Adams of Morris.

He weighed 6 lbs. and 1 ounce and was 18 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Carlin and Juanita Pete Thompson of Duck Creek.

Paternal grandparents are Donna Ingram of Eufaula and Dean Adams of Tucson, Arizona.

Maternal great grandparents are July and the late Mae Tulsa of Duck Creek and Emily Dickerson of Ada.

Chase has one brother Jaden, age 4.

Adams

Birthdays

Girl celebrates with Scooby–Doo theme

BROKEN ARROW— Christian Little Blue Cloud celebrated her third birthday on Aug. 22 with a Scooby-Doo theme with family and friends.

She enjoys playing with her cousins and going to stompdances. She is a beginner shellshaker.

Christian is from the Duck Creek Ceremonial Grounds and a member of the Turtle Clan.

She is the daughter of LaCreshia Cloud of Broken Arrow.

Grandparents are Pamela Barnett of Glenpool and Bill Littlehead of Santa Fe, NM.

She has two sisters, Destiny age eight and Deborah age six.

Cloud

Girl celebrates sixth birthday with a Barbie theme party

BROKEN ARROW— Deborah Ellen Cloud celebrated her 6th birthday with a Barbie theme with family and friends.

She enjoys shaking shells, playing softball and playing with her many cousins.

Deborah is in the first grade at Union Andersen Elementary School.

Cloud is from the Duck Creek Ceremonial Ground and a member of the Turtle Clan.

She is the daughter of LaCreshia Cloud of Broken Arrow.

She is the granddaughter of Pamela Barnett of Glenpool and Bill Littlehead of Santa Fe, NM.

Deborah has two sisters, Destiny age eight and Christian age three.

Cloud

Girl celebrates first birthday with Winnie the Pooh

TULSA— Jaebri Evonne Tottress turned one year old on Sept. 25. She celebrated a Winnie the Pooh and friends 1st birthday theme held at the LaFortune Park playhouse.

Jaebri is the daughter of Johnathan and Kermitta Tottress of Okmulgee.

Maternal grandparents are Sharon Harris and the late Kermit Harris Sr. of Okmulgee.

Paternal grandparents are Ivalene Tottress of Henryetta and John Tottress of Boynton.

Jaebri is the great granddaughter of Ivaline Melton of Henryetta.

Tottress

Tiger celebrates 11th birthday with Marvel comics

MIDWEST CITY — Jaelen Lowe-Tiger celebrated his 11th birthday with Marvel comics on Sept. 22 with family and friends.

He is the son of Jenna Lowe of Okemah and Michael Tiger of Muskogee.

Grandparents are John and Diana Lowe of Tahlequah and Lana and the late Kenneth Tiger of Glenpool.

Jaelen has two sisters, Mvhayv Lowe age one and Niyah Lowe-Murray age three.

Council

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and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (22-0-0) NCA 03-163, authorizing the expenditure of the FY 2003 community service block grant (vision program);
- approved (13-9-0) NCA 03-165, repealing NCA 96-58 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds and establishing guidelines for the school clothing programs) and establishing a comprehensive clothing assistance program;

voting no were: **Barnett**, Creek; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields,** Tukvpvtce; and **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

representatives **Bible** and **McIntosh** were excused

representative **Aaron** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- return to committee (10-9-0) NCA 03-166, authorizing a special appropriation to the Mvskoke language institute;

voting no were: **Pickering**, McIntosh; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Fields**, Tukvpvtce; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; and **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

- approved (20-0-0) NCA 03-167, authorizing a special appropriation to purchase materials and components to enable G.S.A./Facilities department to implement the Avaya IP600 phone system;
- approved (20-0-0) NCA 03-168, authorizing a budget modification for the Communication department's FY 2003 budget;
- approved as amended (20-0-0) NCA 03-170, authorizing the expenditure of the reading is fundamental award for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start program;
- postponed (20-0-0) NCA 03-171, approving the comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year 2004 and providing for appropriations;
- approved (20-0-0) NCA 03-173, amending NCA 99-20 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation adopting a revised election code and repealing NCA 81-82 and all amendments to NCA 81-82) to be codified in Title 19 of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, entitled "Elections," related to the striking of a candidacy for elective office;
- approved (20-0-0) NCA 03-174, authorizing a special appropriation and the expenditure of funds for software licensing for all tribal programs.

Spotlight

"They (students) should come visit the Indian Colleges," said Lonefight. "We offer the same courses, like business, with the same dedication and care."

Creek Educator making a difference

by Gerald Wofford

A good characteristic of a leader is to never stop learning, especially when the leader is put in charge of young minds that are also willing to learn. Mix all that together with a Native American surrounding, creativity, and you have the beginnings of something unique.

In the predominant American Indian State of South Dakota lies Sisseton Wahpeton College, one of 34 tribal colleges in the United States. Established in 1979, the college is a good example of a tribally controlled college. The college enrollment, which is 287, consists mainly of Lakota Sioux, although there are other tribes that attend this school. One of the many goals of this educational institution is to integrate Western and traditional tribal learning. Dr. William Harjo Lonefight is in charge of this mission, and he does it quite well. Lonefight isn't shy or undetermined about the challenges of Indian Colleges and the stigma they sometimes receive. The idea that Native American schools are not really up to the educational level of non-Indian schools.

Dr. William Harjo LoneFight, far left, President of Sisseton Wahpeton College, presented Bill Cosby with a honorary diploma, and Richard Williams, Executive Director of the American Indian College Fund, gave him a Pendleton wool blanket and book on traditional American Indian culture.

"They (students) should come visit the Indian Colleges," said Lonefight. "We offer the same courses, like business, with the same dedication and care."

Dr. Lonefight is committed in his belief that Indians, regardless of age, can obtain a college degree from an accredited institution like Sisseton Wahpeton. He has devoted his career to pursuing new methods to mold tribal educational practices with Western educational systems to enrich the learning experience of American Indians. Lonefight has made sure that if tribal citizens can't come to college, the college will come to them.

"We have single mothers and fathers who can't go very far away from home, who want to get a higher education," said Lonefight. "We make sure that it is available to them, right here."

Always looking at what can keep continue a tribe's success thriving and efficient, Lonefight sees economic development and language preservation being key components. He points to the school's business department as being one of the best in the region, if not the Nation.

"The school here helps develop economic development and the preservation of the language," Lonefight says. "They (Lakota Sioux) have control of their own educational system, therefore it makes it easier to preserve the language."

Lonefight must believe in all Indians getting an education, no matter their tribal affiliation or location. He is Choctaw and Creek, yet decided 2 years ago to leave the friendly confines of home and his work, where he served at the American Indian Research in Norman, Oklahoma.

Recently, Lonefight was awarded the League for Innovation Scholarship from Capella University. The scholarship is awarded to a faculty or staff member at a League for Innovation Alliance member institution who has demonstrated innovative accomplishments in the field of higher education.

"To be given an award to pursue another degree in higher education is really thrilling to me, and I hope that I can contribute to others,"

Lonefight truly believes in helping others, no matter their situation. He credits his grandmother Hazel Heath, as well as uncle Raymond and aunt Ann Curtis, for helping to raise him and being instrumental in his success and confirmation in helping others. Lonefight possess a degree in English and Education.

Sisseton Wahpeton College is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools affiliated with the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. The Nursing Program is approved by the South Dakota Board of Nursing. SWC is a member of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium and the Association of Community Colleges.

The Muscogee Nation News will start advertising

OKMULGEE — The *Muscogee Nation News* will start advertising in the November issue.

The prices and sizes available are as follows:

Ad Size	W x H	1X	2X-4X	5X-8X	9X-12X
*Full	10.25"X11.5"	$900	$810	$765	$675
1/2 page	10.25"X5.75	$450	$405	$382	$312
1/4 page	5" X 11.25"	$225	$202	$191	$168
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Note: Discounts for display ads only. Multiple discounts may not be used. Highest applicable discount will be used.

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- Improper preparation of files will incur extra production charges.
- PC files will be accepted.

Digital files may be e-mailed to: comm2@ocevnet.org; files on CD or Zip disk, including an ad proof, may be mailed to: *Muscogee Nation News* at P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

For more information on digital file preparation, please contact: Lucas Taylor at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7634 or (918) 732-7634.

Social services will begin their heating assistance

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services department will be starting their heating assistance through the Tribal Energy Assistance and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Programs.

Past participants will be conducted in early October to schedule an appointment for the pre–application process. Social Services will begin accepting walk-in appointments starting November 12. The following is basic information required to complete the application process: CDIB/Citizenship cards; social security cards; and employment/unemployment verification for each household member eighteen years of age and older to document income; and the heating bill/invoice. The bill/invoice must be in the applicant or spouse's name.

Households with minor children other than their own will need to submit documentation of legal custody. Additional documentations will be required for students 18 years or older who attend high school, vocational-technical school, or college to verify their unemployment status and/or financial assistance.

For more information contact the Social Service Department at (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979.

Head Start participates in the sleep safe program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program is participating in its fourth year of the Sleep Safe Program sponsored by the Indian Health Service and the U.S. Fire Administration.

The program's objective, as implemented by Head Start, is to increase the number of operable smoke alarms in the home of children enrolled in the Muscogee Nation Head Start centers.

The program also provides teachers, parents, and child care providers with basic information on how to identify and eliminate home fire safety hazards.

For more information, contact Eva Canepa, project coordinator at (918) 758-1420.

Veteran's Day ceremony has been scheduled

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Day ceremony is scheduled for Nov. 10 at 11 a.m. in the Mound auditorium. The Veterans Committee and Gloria Narcomy-Bezzell, Senior Service Manager, have planned a program to honor all Muscogee (Creek) veterans.

The Veterans will be presented with a medal and certificate. The Senior Service manager is requesting names of veterans who will be attending with their branch of service and pictures of Creek veterans that will be shown in a slide presentation at the ceremony.

The deadline to submit names will be Oct. 30. For more information contact Gloria Narcomey-Bezzell at (918) 756-8700 or 1-800-482-1979.

Halloween Health screenings available

WETUMKA— The Alabama–Quassarte Tribal Town, Kialegee Tribal Town, and Muscogee (Creek) Nation community health representatives presents a Halloween health scream on Oct. 31 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

It will be held at the Kialegee Family Life Center located two miles West of Wetumka on Hwy 9, turn North on Hwy 28 then 3/4 of a mile North.

Everyone is welcome to attend. Free food, door prizes and valuable health information will be available.

American Indian Mascots and Imagery

TULSA — Dr. Hugh Foley will present a slide show, lecture and video, "Savage Country," featuring American Indian students, educators and tribal leaders discussing mascot and imagery issues on Oct. 20 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Maxwell Park Library on 1313 N. Canton.

The video "Savage Country" has been shown nationwide at various conferences, legislative assemblies, churches and schools, as well as on public television in Oklahoma, Michigan and New York.

The event is sponsored by the Charles W. and Pauline K. Flint Foundation and Tulsa City-County Library's American Indian Resource Center.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information contact Maxwell Park Library at (918) 669-6055.

College fair for American Indian students

TULSA— A college fair for American Indian students will be held on Nov. 1 at Maxwell Park Library located at 1313 N. Canton.

The fair will consist of information and representatives from area colleges, information from tribal higher education offices, and library resources on colleges and financial aid.

This is sponsored by Charles and Pauline Flint Foundation and Tulsa City-county Library's American Indian Resource Center.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information contact Maxwell Park Library at (918) 669-6055.

Reunions

Jones Male Academy Reunion

HARTSHORNE — Jones Male Academy is having their annual reunion on Oct. 18. Registration will begin at 10 a.m.

Lunch and dinner will be served at the cafeteria and a gospel singing will be at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium.

For more information contact: Jimmy Bruner at (580)298-3136; Ted LaFlore at (580)889-7989; Tully Choate at (918)455-7255; or Tom Willison at (580)286-3585.

Haskell Alumni Reunion to be held

WAGONER — The Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma invites all alumni and friend to the annual reunion on Oct. 24 through 26 at the Western Hill Lodge at Sequoyah State Park.

For more information on special room rates, reception party, Saturday golf, dinner/dance, and Sunday activities, contact: Joyce Childers Bear at (918) 756-8700 or e-mail: Cultural@ocevnet.org; or Leon Yahola at (918)616–3757.

Church seeks new pastor

TULSA — Tulsa's All Tribes Community Church is searching for a pastor to lead its congregation. A unique Native American philosophy, sanctioned by the American Baptist Churches, USA, is the foundation of this ten year old church located in Tulsa's inner city but serving the greater Tulsa metropolitan area.

Interested individuals may obtain further information about the bi-vocational position by sending a letter of interest and resume by Nov. 1 to A.A. Graham, 3334 East King Street, Tulsa, OK 74115. An immediate response concerning the vacancy will be made by the Pastoral Search Committee.

Belvin Baptist to hold fall festival

OKMULGEE — Belvin Baptist will hold a fall revival on Oct. 26 through 29 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly.

Eddie Lindsey will be the speaker. Special performance on Sunday evening by Taylor Osborn.

Belvin is located at 320 N. Mission, across from OSU/Okmulgee. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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J. Davis, Lynn Murphy King, Angela Maria Mitchell, Rex Birdwell Murphy, Terry J. Perriello, Kathryn H. Perrine, Dorothy Daly Reddick, Francis D. Reynolds, Margaret Sands, Jefferson D. Sellers, Marion Daly Vanderpool, Andrew Burgess, John F. Davis, Marie Sands Harjo, Jennie Tiger Henry, Johnny Lee Ingram, O-Han-Sica Tresa Ingram, Carolyn King, Tommy Ray Lewis, William Andrew Martin, Shirley Harjo Mitchell, Lance Mayall Sands, Francis Fisher Sutton, Carolyn June Tiger, Gaylon Ray Tiger, Joseph Lee Tiger Jr., Laveda Sue Tiger, Mary Burgess Tiger, Peggy Sue Tiger, Ricky Dean Tiger, Rose Ann Tiger, Gwendolyn Loise Barnett, Helen Martin Birkley, Mary K. Fisher, Barbara Ditzler Casey, Janet Marie Henry Crawford, Terry Lee Ditzler, Brice Glen Ferguson, Lawrence Harvey Fisher Jr., Nellie Forshee, Mahale Ann Henry, Lillian Forshee Hentogen, Marjorie Ann Scott Ingram, Patricia Larney, Ted Lowe, Karen R. Fisher Melton, Herman Mikel Richards, Curtis Ryan, Mario Sands, Beth Henry Sigman, Cathy Ingram Welsh, Butler Baker, Everett M. Baker, Janey a/k/a Janey Baker, Luther I. Baker, Rebecca J. Baker, David Barnett, David S. Barnett, Doris Dean Barnett, Hubert Barnett, Jimmy Barnett, Joe Barnett, John Barnett, Nellie Barnett, Sukey Barnett, Tom Barnett, Annie Beams, Isom Beams, Bamma Bear, Nettie Conner Bamma Bear/Heirs, Gladys Barnett Brown, Charity Smith Buckley, Lola Mae Bunt, Andrew Burgess, Emma Conner Burgess, Huldy Deer a/k/a Huldy Deer Davis Burgess, Jim Davis a/k/a Jim Burgess, John Burgess, Noah Burgess, Sallie Burgess, Sissie Burgess, William Burgess, Wynona Conner Clemons, John Conner, May or Hannah Conner, Susie Conner, Willie Conner, Abbie Bear Cosar, John F. Davis.

please see **LEGAL**..., page 7

PATRICIA FORD

GROVE — Funeral services for Patricia Ann Ford were held July 23 at Christ Church with Pastor Jerry Baser and Vernon "Dub" Turner officiating.

She was born June 1, 1945 in Fairland, to Leonard William and Margie Lou Orcutt Philpott.

Ford earned her teaching degree from Northeastern State University in 1995. She was a member of Order of Eastern Star, Warren's Branch, Disabled Vietnam Veteran, Mvskoke Creek Nation and Muscogee Nation Honor Guard (before it was sanctioned by the tribe & presented the colors at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia).

Patricia married Rick Lile Ford on June 2, 2002.

Survivors include: her husband; three children, Jheri Smolan of Milford, Michigan, Jennifer Kilman of Waterford, Michigan, and Audra Brown of Seattle, Washington; step-children, Amber and Adam Ford of Kansas City, Kansas; mother; sisters, Donna Burton of Fairland and Margie McCutcheon of Foster, Oklahoma; and brother, L.W. "Bill" Philpott of Claremore, Oklahoma.

Interment was at Hickory Grove Cemetery.

FREEMAN HILL

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Freeman Hill were held July 24 at Hutchins-Maples Funeral Home Chapel.

He was born January 9, 1923 in Okfuskee County, Oklahoma to Tiller and Annochee Harjo Hill.

Mr. Hill was united in marriage to Maggie Hicks in 1948. Freeman and his family moved to the Bristow area in 1964 from Wetumka.

Hill served in the U.S. Army for two years.

Preceding him in death were: his wife; parents; and brother, George Hill.

Survivors include: three sons, Riley of Stroud, Danny of Bristow, and Franklin Hill of Depew; daughter, Maxine Bucktrot of Bristow; sister, Nancy Hill of Depew; eleven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and a host of friends.

Interment was at the Hill Family Cemetery.

SHARON LEWIS

HENRYETTA — Sharon "Bubbles" Lewis passed away on July 15th, 2003 in Wagoner, Oklahoma at the age of 36 years.

She was born to the family of David and Lillie Gipson Lewis on December 27, 1966 in Ft. Worth, Texas.

Sharon was a resident of the Salem Community her entire life and worked as a cashier for the Muskogee Creek Nation Bingo.

Lewis was widowed by her late husband, Victor, in 2001. Her hobbies were playing volleyball and throwing darts.

Preceding her in death were: her husband; grandfather, David Lewis Sr.; and sister, Patricia Lewis.

Survivors include: three sons, Jefferey Wayne of Ada, Jordan Wayne and Johnathan David Lewis, both of Henryetta; parents; two brothers, Ronnie of Henryetta and Richard Lewis of Ada; sister, Diane Lewis Jobe of Edmond; and three nieces.

Gratitude

We would like to extend a special thanks to all who took part in providing food, sending cards, encouraging words, flowers sent, love donations, and most of all prayers, during the hospital stay and funeral services for our daughter, Semvthoye Anna, and father, Eunah Givens.

Also, thank you to Little Cussetah Baptist of Sapulpa, Oklahoma, Grace Baptist, Wetumka Indian Baptist, Sand Creek Baptist, all of Wetumka, Faith Baptist of Dustin, Hillabee Baptist Church of Hanna, Wetumka Public School Teachers & Employees, Teddy Bear Day Care, City of Wetumka employees, Kids "R" Us, Weleetka State Bank, Kialegee Tribal Town Staff, Ida and Kgo of KTT, A.Q. Tribal Town Staff, Wetumka Indian Center and Elders, Muskogee (Creek) Lighthorsemen, Muscogee (Creek) Council members, Creek Nation CHR's, Okemah Hospital employees, Okemah Clinic employees, DHA employees and to the Individuals too numerous to name.

A thank you to my physical sisters, cousins, and family who provided meals at our home during the wake service and our home church, Sand Creek Baptist youth members & Pastor Harry Anderson, and Hillabee Baptist Church with Rev. Wallace Gambler presiding.

We can only rely on your prayers and we know that your prayers are being answered.

Semvthoye Anna and Eunah Givens Family

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to the Muscogee Creek Nation for their assistance in the burial and food voucher in our time of need. We would, also, like to thank the people that attended the funeral and gave a donation to the family. *Mvto.*

Freeman Hill Family

We would like to thank each and everyone that came to visit Reba in the hospital or at home. All the cards, flowers, food, phone calls and visits during a difficult time for us were a comfort, we realized Reba was not only special to her family but to many others as well. A special thank you goes out to Rev. Mitchell Taylor and Rev. Sonny Braswell for the beautiful service, and to the members of Hickory Ground #1, Grave Creek, Big Cussetah and Okmulgee Indian Community, all your deeds were and still are greatly appreciated. Thank you all very much.

Reba Thomas Family

Religion

Trenton Church holding annual gospel singing

HANNA — Trenton Indian Baptist Church is holding its 24th Annual Gospel Singing on October 25, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

The church is located four miles west of Hanna.

The emcee will be Leslie Billy. All singers and listeners welcome. Concession will be available.

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Clifford Carl Ditzler, James Albert Ditzler, Melviney Barnett Ditzler, Melviney Barnett Ditzler, Ruth J. Mannon Ditzler, W.H. Ditzler, William Lee Ditzler, Lillie Smoot Drummond, Maud Anna Baker Dunn, Noah Dunn, Nola Susan Smoot Falwell, Kizzie Ann Smoot Ferguson, Frazier Fish, Bill Fisher, Lawrence Fisher, Lewis Fisher, Seaborn Fisher/Heirs, William Fisher, Bill Frazier, Millie Fish Gilroy, Eliza Gouge, Ida Gouge, Rhoda Stepney Gouge, Anna Pearl Murphy Hale, Mary Evelyn Smoot Hall, Jennie Lowe Burgess Harjo, Norman Hendrix, Wynie Conner Hendrix, Jennie Tiger Henry, Mahaley Fish Hickman, Nora Burgess Ingram, Roger D. Jones, Lucy Williams Knight, Fannie Ann Ditzler Larney, Ida Mae Baker Larney, James F. Larney, Mitchell Larney, Thompson Larney, Geneva Lewis, Mary Barnett Lewis, Tommy Ray Lewis, Winey Fish Lewis, Katie Fish Litzey, William Andrew Martin, Rosa Lee Fisher Miller, Frank Mitchell, Lena Lowe Murphy, Rex Randolph Murphy, Pactola Development Co., Daisy Bell Smoot Richards, R.G. Perrine, J.P. Richards, Tishie M. Beams Romazon, Carrie Hendrix Ryan, Curtis Ryan, Alvin Sams a/k/a Alvin Buddy Sands, Alvin Daniel Sands, Margaret Drew Sands, Sandra Simya Sands, Almerine Smith, Richenda Pratt Hendrix Smith, Delbert Wesley Smoot, Hattie Barnett Smoot, Wilborn a/k/a William H. Smoot, Barney Stepney, Chissie (Jennie) Stepney, Marion Fisher Stevens, Francis Fisher Sutton, Henry Tarpalechee, Johnson Tarpalechee, Martin Tarpalechee, Nancy Lowe Tarpalechee, Dickie Tiger, George Tiger, Joseph Tiger Jr., Kenneth Gene Tiger, Laveda Tiger, Mariah Fisher Tompkins, Walter S. Warman, Louisa Barnett Watson, George West George West Jr., Juanita King West, Rhoda a/k/a Rhonda Beams West, Katie Knight Williams, Louis Williams, Marchellus L. Williams, Nathan Williams/Heirs, Rena May Smoot Williams, Elizabeth Yarnipcutt, Phillip Yarnipcutt, William Yarnipcutt, Winifred Yarnipcutt, Ramona Yarnipcutt, and if the above named individual is deceased, then the unknown heirs, executor, administrators, devisees, trustees, and assigns, both immediate and remote, of such deceased individual; if any of the above named parties designated as executor is not acting in such capacity as executor, then the unknown successor or successors to such party as executor; and all other persons, owners, producers, operators, purchasers and particularly in Creek County, Oklahoma.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant, Little River Energy Company, has filed an Application in this cause requesting the Corporation Commission of Oklahoma to enter an Order pooling the interests of the oil and gas owners, and adjudicating the rights and equities in connection with the 160 acre drilling and spacing unit that has been established by Oklahoma Corporation Commission Order No. 474222 for the Hogshooter, Layton, Cleveland (Jones), Prue, Big Lime, Oswego, Skinner, Red Fork, Bartlesville, Burgess, Simpson Dolomite, First Wilcox, Second Wilcox and Arbuckle common

please see **LEGAL**..., page 8

Shop talk with Gerald

Our hats off to Dwight Pickering, long time Indian education instructor at Sapulpa High School. Pickering decided this fall to take his act up north to Lawrence, Kansas. He became the Athletic Director at Haskell, returning to his alma-mater where he ran and coached track & cross country. During his tenure at Sapulpa, Pickering also coached the track and cross country teams.

"I think that his outlook on all things is real positive," said Belvin Hill, Field Specialist with the Creek Nation Johnson O'Malley program, "He's real enthusiastic and works well with the kids. I know that he was reaching for his goals and that was one of them."

This writer will never forget the graciousness of Pickering, I was invited into his office to talk about Indian sports in general one day. I was in awe when he showed me a pair of Jim Ryun running shoes that he had obtained. Ryun was the former Olympic and world record distance runner. Good luck at Haskell Dwight.

Speaking of Haskell, the Indians invade the Indian Bowl on Saturday, October 18 in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Game time is scheduled for 7 p.m. Haskell concludes a four year contract with Bacone being the host site. Next year Bacone begins traveling to Lawrence.

Anyone watching baseball has to be jacked up for the American and National League Playoff series leading up to the World Series. Hey, if your team didn't make it this far or if you are looking for a team to root for, why not try the New York Yankees. They have some Creek ties in the their storied history. Legendary pitcher, Allie Reynolds, helped shape the Yankee dynasty back in the 1950's.

A little more on the Yankees. As I write, the Bronx Bombers are taking on their historic rivals, the Boston Red Sox in the American Champion League Series. The Sox haven't had much luck in the playoffs. Many blame that on the legendary *Curse of the Bambino*! Ruth was sold to the Yankees on January 9, 1920 for $100,000. A song, *"Babe Ruth's Curse,"* was produced by Joe Pickering, Jr on a CD titled, *"Baseball Songs and Sports Heroes."* Pickering, who hails from Bangor, Maine, was a guest on the Creek Nation Radio Program. Not only talking about the alleged curse, but his stand on the Native American mascot issue, a song, *"I'm not a mascot, I'm a man,"* is included on the CD.

We wish all the best to Sequoyah High School. The Indians are doing very well on the grid-iron right now and are currently ranked sixth in 2A with five wins and one loss, according to Coaches Aid Magazine.

Although we mentioned Sequoyah in shop talk, there are certainly a lot of good high school teams with good Creek athletes. Go support the team of your choice and let us know how well there are doing.

Weleetka rolls on in hopes of a repeat

Like the little engine that could, the Weleetka Outlaws just keep on rolling. This week, according to the Oklahoma State Secondary School (OSSA) rankings, Weleetka is ranked number two in the state with a record of 5 wins and only 1 loss. With hopes of repeating last year's state championship performance, Coach Tony Hawkins has his team handling success one game at time while keeping in mind the great history of Outlaw football.

R. Bencoma

"We try to look at tradition," says Head Coach Tony Hawkins. "We have had some great teams here at Weleetka."

Coach Hawkins, who is in his 12th year at the Class B School, felt that his team of a year ago would be something special. He certainly expected the team to go far, but to capture a state title was certainly something for the ages.

"That was nice," Hawkins says when thinking back to last year. "I knew we were capable of big things. Our kids continued to work hard and we knew by doing that good things would happen."

This year's crew continues to do the same. Coach Hawkins expects another successful year. As far as a state championship is concerned, who knows, but Coach Hawkins knows the team is in good hands, despite a team that lost a few seniors and starts younger athletes.

Due to their school size, Weleetka plays 8-man football, a form of the sport that traditionally calls for 11 men on offense and the same amount on the defensive side. The size of the field is also 5 yards more narrow than a standard playing field.

Hawkins admits that the game is certainly a little different, not just in populations size alone.

"A lot of people try to compare it to arena type football," said Hawkins. "Its like a faster paced game of traditional football. It becomes a real disciplined game and a lot less room for error."

One other item Coach Hawkins owes to the overall team's success is the contribution of Muscogee (Creek) athletes, athletes who were a big part of last year's state championship team. Hawkins mentioned players such as Senior Glen West who splits playing time at defensive end and tight end, and wide receiver and defensive back Matt Ishmael, who even sees playing time at quarterback when needed. The Bencoma brothers, Rodney and William have seen action since they were freshmen. William starts as wide receiver and defensive back, while Rodney plays quarterback and defensive back as well. As the starting quarterback last season, Rodney exploded for more than 3,000 yards in total offense while leading his club to a perfect 13-0 record. Brother William ignited a sensational defensive charge while adding over 1,100 total yards on the offensive side as well.

Coach Hawkins, along with the rest of the Outlaw team, knows the state championship is ways down the road, but with good Creek athletes, the road seems a little easier to manage.

Legal

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sources of supply underlying the unit comprised of the SE/4 of Section 5, Township 17 North, Range 7 East, Creek County, Oklahoma. The interest of the oil and gas owners involved herein and the rights and equities in respect thereto are to be pooled and adjudicated pursuant to 52 O.S. § 87.1 on the basis of the drilling and spacing units covered hereby. The Application in this cause states that Applicant has proposed the development of the separate common sources of supply in the drilling and spacing unit involved herein under a plan of development and has proposed to commence such plan by development of an initial well in the SE/4 of Section 5, Township 17 North, Range 7 East, Creek County, Oklahoma and that Applicant has been unable to reach an agreement with the owners of the right to drill named as Respondents herein with respect to such proposed plan of development of the drilling and spacing unit and separate common sources of supply covered thereby.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Application in this cause requests that Applicant or some other party recommended by Applicant be designated as Operator of the drilling and spacing units and separate common sources of supply involved herein, including the proposed initial well under Applicant's proposed plan of development of such units.

IT IS ORDERED that this Cause be referred to an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence, and reporting the findings and recommendations to the Commission.

IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that this Cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, 440 S. Houston, Tulsa, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m. on the 28 day of October 2003, and that this notice and order be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant and interested parties may present testimony by telephone. The cost of telephonic communication shall be paid by the person or persons requesting its use. Interested parties who wish to participate by telephone shall contact the Applicant or Applicant's attorney, prior to the hearing date, and provide their name and phone number.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this action, contact Steve Crowder of Little River Energy Company, P.O. Box 1113, Drumright, Oklahoma, 74030, (918) 352-4444 or Lee I. Levinson, Attorney at Law, 1743 E. 71st Street, Southbridge Office Park, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74136-5108, (918) 492-4433.

CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA
Denise A. Bode, Chairman
Bob Anthony, Vice-Chairman
Jeff Cloud, Commissioner
DONE AND PERFORMED this 18 day of September, 2003
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:
Peggy Mitchell, Secretary

Veteran's Day

Creek Veterans saw war differently

• Story page 5

Diabetes program reaches out to youth

• Story page 7

SPORTS
Oktaha hurler shines on the diamond

• Story page 8

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Berryhill edges Hicks in second chief runoff

OKMULGEE — Alfred L. Berryhill edged fellow candidate Curtis Hicks in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief runoff election.

Berryhill received 52.86 percent (1,460) out of the 2,762 votes cast on Nov. 8 compared to 47.14 percent (1302) votes for Hicks.

Minutes after hearing of the unofficial results, results become official on Friday, Nov. 14, Berryhill commented on his election victory.

Curtis Hicks congratulates Alfred Berryhill on his election victory. *photo by Denise Jacobs*

"I am proud to say that Creek Nation showed itself in a way where there was no mud slinging and there was no bitterness between the candidates," said Berryhill. "Each one came to the forefront because they care about their Nation."

Hicks also commented on how clean he thought the election race was ran.

"I think it was a good race and I appreciate the fact that it was a clean race," stated Hicks. "To me that is a way our tribe should run these elections. I wish the best of luck to him. If there is anything I can do to help him, the administration, or the tribe I am still available."

Berryhill spoke of his eagerness to begin working for the Tribe and for the Creek people..

"My first order of business is getting acquainted with issues presently and hopefully, A.D. and I can see how I can be of help to him in reaching out to our elected officials, the National Council," said Berryhill. "I will never quit. I will always preserve whatever endeavors that need to be taken care of that will benefit all people within the Nation."

Muscogee citizen makes acting debut

Tim Thompson, Cultural Advisor, appears in the National Park Service documentary about the Battle at Horseshoe Bend in Alabama. He portrays Principal Leader of the Red Sticks, Menawa. Upon arrival to the location for the filming of the documentary, Thompson and Joyce Bear, Culture Preservation Manager, found that the cast were all non-Indian. Bear insisted that they use Native American actors to portray the characters. The short notice prompted the recruitment of Thompson to portray Menawa, a middle age leader of the warriors.

"It was an inspiration to reflect on the heritage of our people, a turning point in our history and part of the weary path of our ancestors," said Thompson. "I encourage everyone to explore our history, visit our homelands, know what our ancestors endured to make it to where our home is today."

Other Muscogee citizens playing parts were Jimmy Sanders, Johnson Scott, Jr. and Turner Bear all played warriors or chiefs that signed the treaties and Joyce Bear played a villager. The film was narrated by Wes Studi. The film is in the editing stage and will be available in approximately ninety days.

OSU and tribe to create a Tribal College for Oklahoma

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation recently organized a tribal college work-study group whose objective is to plan a Native American college with the working title of "American Indian University."

The National Office of Indian Education Programs is encouraging state universities and Native American tribes to work together to establish institutions of higher learning. Endorsement by the Five Civilized Tribes opens the way for a state and tribal agency agreement between the Oklahoma State University System and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The OSU system and the Muscogee (Creek) Tribe would form a joint venture to develop a tribal college designed to serve the unique higher education needs of all Native Americans in Oklahoma.

OSU President and System CEO David Schmidly said the OSU System is best suited to assist with the task because of its dedication to serving rural Oklahomans.

"We have a statewide mission and responsibility to serve all of the state's citizens," said Schmidly. "Serving Oklahoma's Native American population parallels other OSU System initiatives such as rural workforce development, rural medicine and telemedicine, distance learning and natural resource development."

Schmidly noted that OSU-Okmulgee uses distance learning to provide Native American language courses for Indian students throughout the state.

Chief Beaver said a Native American higher learning institution would help tribal governments build expertise in such areas as transportation management, security, law enforcement, fire safety and hazardous waste management. "As we continue to build tribal service capabilities, we need a more sophisticated and educated workforce," says Beaver. "It's our desire that our people fill these positions, and a Native American college would help make that happen."

The Creek Tribe and the OSU system will launch the venture by writing a plan that will include developing a feasibility study, conducting needs assessments, drafting academic policies and procedures, designing programs of study and organizing class schedules.

Beaver notes that a proposal, establishing a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Board of Regents, will be

please see **COLLEGE**..., page 2

Vrakuece Este Mvskokvlke looking for Creek heroes

Editor:

The Vrakuece Este Mvskokvlke group was formed to educate young Creek children and youths about Creek heroes and to instill pride and knowledge of Creek heroes and Creek culture.

I would like for Creek people to submit names of whom they think of as real heroes and who made real contributions to and for the tribe.

Names should be submitted to Ted Isham, 106 West 6th, Okmulgee, OK, 74447. The deadline for submitting names is November 19, 2003. Submissions of names and a short resume by the Creek people will be greatly appreciated.

The Vrakuece Este Mvskokvlke will choose ten to twenty names and small booklets will be printed and given to schools with a large Creek student body.

Jorene Coker, Okmulgee

Editor's note: Jorene is a member of the Vrakuece Este Mvskokvlke group.

Tribal citizens thanks ETA department

Editor:

We would like to say thank you to the Employment and Training department of the Creek Nation for helping our son, Kirby Jennings, while attending school at OSU-Okmulgee. The Creek Nation Tribal Vocational and Incentive Grant is a good program. Thank you to all the staff in the ETA department for being so helpful, informative and friendly.

Teresa & Bobby Jennings, Okmulgee

Haskell University is searching for alumni

Editor:

I'm trying to locate some Haskell Institute graduates of 1955.

Our 50th graduation anniversary is coming up in 2005 and I am trying to locate as many of the graduates that I can. They are: Elsie Wilson of Calvin; Jimmy King of Konawa; Charles Coleman of Weleetka; and Barney Fixico of Holdenville.

You may contact me at 2317 Nicklaus Dr., Oceanside, CA, 92056. Any help you can give me will be greatly appreciated.

Avis Glodek, Oceanside, California

Elected National Council Rep thanks the people

Editor:

I want to say thank you so much for your vote of confidence in allowing me the honor and privilege to serve you as Okmulgee District Representative for the next two years. "To everything, There is a reason." The Nation is looking toward the changing of leadership with eagerness and wonderment and I am honored to be a part of this. Thank you so much!

Rita Williams, Henryetta

College

continued from page 1

presented to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council this fall. If approved, the Chief will appoint a board subject to confirmation by the Council. Beaver says the first phase of the project will be to develop a project plan to win approval of the funding agency, the Office of Indian Education. OSU-Okmulgee is a public, state-supported, technical education university committed to increasing the potential and productivity of the people it serves.

Thirty-three programs of study lead to Associate in Applied Science degrees, and four programs of study lead to an Associate in Science transfer degree. The campus is known for its hands-on technical education, its world-class equipment and its unique partnership with industry.

For more information about OSU-Okmulgee call 918-293-5338 or 1-800-722-4471.

Youth volunteers sought for 2004 Inauguration

Youth volunteers, ages 16 to 18, are being sought for the 2004 Inauguration on Jan. 10 from 8 p.m. to midnight. The Office of the Principal Chief wants to have more youth involvement in tribal government. For more information contact Melissa Napier at (918) 732-7604.

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello friends and tribal citizens! Saturday, November 8th will decide who our new Second Chief will be and who may give you their Second Opinion for the next four years. This is the time when Creek people can use their only power over tribal politics, the ballot box. Good luck to all candidates and I look forward to working with you.

October 18 was Council Oak day in Tulsa and a great crowd showed at Council Oak Park. Later, lunch was served at Veteran's Park nearby. Congratulations to all involved for another successful Oak Tree Ceremony and especially thanks to all Mekko's and ceremonial ground representatives.

On October 19th, a new outdoor patio was dedicated at the elderly living center, north of the complex. Thanks to the work of Carolyn Torix, Jim Pushámahtoh Henry and many others.

We have many people throughout our nation that volunteer and work for the good of the young people and tribal elders. Most times we never know who they are but they are community members, tribal employees, and just plain citizens who want to help. I want to thank the many unknown people who contribute to help make lives better for our Creek people. Lately I have been called upon to address groups of people, both tribal and non-tribal. All people seem excited for our nation's future and non-Creeks are beginning to realize the enormous impact the Creek Nation has on their area of Oklahoma.

On October 14, I was invited to ride from Henryetta to Muskogee with U.S. Senator Joe Liberman, who is running for President. This was an opportunity for me to inform national power people about our health care funding, housing, and all areas concerning our people. The Senator listened and asked many questions about the Muscogee Nation. He may not get elected but could be a contact in Washington.

I attended the Kialegee Tribal Town Health Fair last week and was very impressed with their new town center. This huge building can serve the tribal town people in a variety of ways. Keep up the good work.

The inauguration of the new Principal Chief and Second Chief will be held at the Covelle Hall center at OSU-Okmulgee on January 10, 2004. This center will probably accommodate over 1000 people and we hope to see as many Creek Citizens as possible. You are all welcome. *Mvto.*

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month. *The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Lucas Taylor, managing editor
Denise Jacobs, editorial assistant
Gerald Wofford, photography/writer
Ruth Bible, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — The following consists of actions of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council conducted at the September 9, special session.

September 9, special session

Absent were: **Judy Aaron**, Creek District; **Roger Barnett**, Creek District; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh District; **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh District; **Sandra Parish**, Muskogee District; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee District; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee District; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee District; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa District; **Cherrah Quiett**, Tulsa District; and **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa District;

Speaker **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

Representative **Pickering** arrived before casting of vote

In order of business the Council:

- postponed (14-0-0) TR 03-081, approving the "Standard form of agreement between owner and design/builder" and "modification to the standard form of agreement between owner and design/builder, part 2 agreement" between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the SGS, LLC;
- postponed (14-0-0) NCA 03-145, revising the FY 2001 Indian Housing plan as approved by NCA 01-90 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the FY 2001 Indian Housing plan) and as revised by NCA 03-061;
- approved as amended (13-0-1) NCA 03-171, approving the comprehensive annual budget for fiscal year .2004 and providing for appropriations;

abstain were: **Golden**, Okfuskee.

Sept. 27 regular session

absent were: **Roger Barnett**, Creek; **Tom Pickering**, McIntosh; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce;

Speaker **Wilbur Gouge**, McIntosh District, conducted the meeting and did not vote.

veto message:

- approved (14-4-0) to veto NCA 03-078, require a referendum on a proposed amendment of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation constitution to reserve to the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation the power to propose laws, and amendments to this constitution and to enact or reject the same at the polls independent of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, and also reserve power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council;

voting no were: **Aaron**, Creek; Nichols, Okmulgee; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Cleghorn**, Tulsa;

- approved (11-8-0) to veto NCA 03-165, repealing NCA 96-58 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds and establishing guidelines for the school clothing programs) and establishing a comprehensive clothing assistance program;

voting no were: **Gouge**, McIntosh; **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

In order of business the Council:

- approved as amended (15-2-0) TR 03-092, confirming the nomination of **Patricia Lynn Pendergrass** to serve on the gaming operations authority board;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Peters**, Okmulgee;

abstain were: **Hufft**, Tulsa;

- approved (18-0-0) TR 03-093, authorizing the Principal Chief to execute an agreement with **John E. Tittle, JR.**, for the operation of one temporary pumpkin sales facility on tribal trust land for the benefit of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 03-096, approving memorandum of understanding between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Cherokee Nation related to water rights research and analysis;
- approved to postpone (18-0-0) NCA 03-148, repealing NCA 01-228 (a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending NCA 92-109 (an ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation adopting a physical plant maintenance & capital improvement policy), as amended by NCA 97-81;,
- approved (14-3-1) NCA 03-151, creating language revitalization and establishing the Mvskoke language division;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Golden**, Okfuskee;

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (17-1-0) NCA 03-152, authorizing a special appropriation for a donation to the Bedouin Shrine organization in Muskogee, Oklahoma;

voting no were: **Golden**, Okfuskee;

- approved (18-0-0) NCA 03-154, a special appropriation to fund the 2003-04 school diabetes program "Move It" of the Okmulgee County health department and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation diabetes program;
- approved to postpone (18-0-0) NCA 03-155, amending certain provisions of the gaming code, NCA 01-183, §§ 202, 203, 309, 403 and 506 and adding section 525 to chapter five regarding the acceptance of things of value by the commissioner, OPC employees, GOAB and their employees and chartered Indian community centers and their employees;
- approved to postpone (18-0-0) NCA 03-166, authorizing a special appropriation to the Mvskoke language;
- approved (12-6-0) NCA 03-172, a special appropriation to the Euchee language preservation project for the development of new teaching tools and aid in the preservation of the Euchee language and related cultural information;

voting no were: **Parish**, Muskogee; **Wind**, Muskogee; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Golden**, Okfuskee; **Berryhill**, Wagoner; **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

representatives **Aaron** and **Cleghorn** were out of seat at time of casting of vote

- approved (16-0-0) NCA 03-175, authorizing a budget modification for the real property and facilities department's FY 2003 budget;

representatives **Aaron** and **Cleghorn** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved (16-0-0) NCA 03-176, authorizing a budget modification for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal trade and commerce authority;

representative **Aaron** and **Cleghorn** were out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- failed (3-12-1) NCA 03-180, enacting a Mvskoke language preservation code and codification said law in title 18, "education," of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

voting no were: **Warrington**, Creek; **McIntosh**, McIntosh; **Watson**, Okfuskee; **Johnson**, Okmulgee; **Peters**, Okmulgee; **Nichols**, Okmulgee; **Yahola**, Tukvpvtce; **Bible**, Tulsa; **Quiett**, Tulsa; **Hufft**, Tulsa; **Kelley**, Tulsa; **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

abstain were: **Gillespie**, Wagoner;

- approved (18-0-0) NCA 03-181, authorizing the expenditure of the WIC technical assistance grant award for FY 2003;
- approved (18-0-0) NCA 03-183, authorizing a special appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Service department to pay the funeral expenses of the remaining original allottees;

representative **Yahola** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved (17-0-0) NCA 03-189, authorizing a special appropriation to the Arbeka United Methodist Church for the celebration of their 119th anniversary;

representative **Johnson** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved (16-1-0) NCA 03-190, authorizing a special appropriation to the Tulsa Indian actor's workshop to present a stage play in Hartford, Connecticut;

voting no were: **Berryhill**, Wagoner;

representative **Johnson** was out of seat at time of casting of vote;

- approved (17-0-0) NCA 03-191, amending the proposed final draft of the code of laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation prepared by West Publishing Company;

September 29, special session

absent were: **Roger Barnett**, Creek district; **Thomas McIntosh**, McIntosh district; **Daniel Wind**, Muskogee district; **Nancy Watson**, Okfuskee district; **Mae Jackson**, Okfuskee district; **Dave Lewis**, Okmulgee district; **George Almerigi**, Okmulgee district; **David Nichols**, Okmulgee district; **Dwayne Lowe**, Tukvpvtce district; **Lola Fields**, Tukvpvtce district; **Larry Bible**, Tulsa district; **Cherrah Ridge-Quiett**, Tulsa district; **Robert Hufft**, Tulsa district; and **Richard Berryhill**, Wagoner district;

a quorum was not established.

Education

Jennings receive associates from OSU-Okmulgee

OKMULGEE — Kirby Jennings graduated from OSU–Okmulgee with an Associates Degree in Applied Science and Information Technology on August 22.

Jennings

He maintained a grade point average of 3.8 and was on the president's honor roll and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa throughout his two year term.

Jennings is a member of Big Cussetah Methodist Church.

He is married to Kristi. He is the son of Bobby and Teresa Jennings of Okmulgee.

He is the grandson of the late Pearline Day of Okmulgee and the late Henry and Elizabeth Tarpalechee of Okmulgee.

Kirby is currently employed with Electronic Data Systems (EDS) in Tulsa.

Scott receives "All-American Scholar" award

EL RENO — United States Achievement Academy has awarded the highest honor award, "All-American Scholar," to Raven Scott, listing her in the top ranking nationwide.

Scott

She continues to maintain a grade point average above 4.0 and has been awarded the Bill Gates Engineering Scholarship.

Raven is the daughter of Saundra Scott and granddaughter of Johnson and Billie Scott.

The Muscogee Nation News will start advertising

OKMULGEE — The *Muscogee Nation News* will start advertising in the December issue.

The prices and sizes available are as follows:

Ad Size	W x H	1X	2X–4X	5X–8X	9X–12X
*Full	10.25"X11.5"	$700	$630	$595	$560
1/2 page	10.25"X5.75	$350	$315	$297	$280
1/4 page	5" X 11.25"	$175	$157	$148	$140
1/8 page	5" X 5.75"	$87	$78	$74	$70
1/12 page	5" X 1.85"	$58	$52	$49	$46
Bus. Card	3.5" X 2"	$41	$36	$34	$32

The more you advertise, the more you save.

Preferred placement of a full page, full color ad is on center or back page(s).

Special discounts:

- 5% for providing digital file of ad
- 10% for Creek tribal entities and/or members.
- 10% to sponsor athlete of the month
- 15% non-profit organizations.
- 20% for Black & White ads

Note: Discounts for display ads only. Multiple discounts may not be used. Highest applicable discount will be used.

Deadline is the third Friday of the month prior to the month your ad is to run. All ads must be pre-payed.

Digital file specifications:

- Tiff, JPEG or PDF composities produced at 300 DPI resolution.
- All font & images imbedded and provided separately as backup.
- Pagemaker document with all support files, i.e. fonts & images.
- Improper preparation of files will incur extra production charges.
- PC files will be accepted.

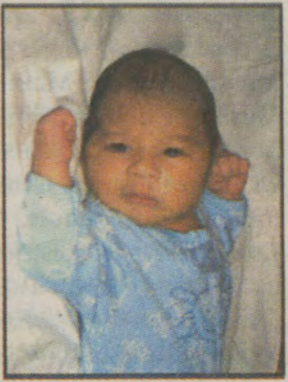
Digital files may be e-mailed to: comm2@ocevnet.org; files on CD or Zip disk, including an ad proof, may be mailed to: *Muscogee Nation News* at P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

For more information on digital file preparation, please contact: Lucas Taylor at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7634 or Denise Jacobs at 732-7636.

Births

Jeremiah Dawayne Ingram

OKMULGEE — Jeremiah Dawayne Ingram was born Oct. 19 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Jessica Dawn Ingram and Austin Jones.



Ingram

He weighed eight pounds and two ounces and was 20.5 inches in length

Maternal grandparents are Kimberly and Larry Qualls of Okmulgee and Barney Ingram and Ruth Bible Okemah.

Paternal grandparents are Floyd Jones of Okmulgee and Kimberly Fair of Tulsa.

Maternal great grandparents are Priscilla and Lawrence Kahbeah and Gladys Landsberry all of Okmulgee and the late Anen Ingram of Henryetta. Paternal great grandparents are Mahaley and the late Elmer Jones of Okmulgee.

He is a member of the Wind clan and belong to the Concharty Tribal Town.

Payden Edward Kilgore

TAHLEQUAH— Payden Edward Kilgore was born Aug. 6 at W.W. Hastings Hospital to Paul and Anita Kilgore. He weighed eight pounds and 15.3 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Kilgore

Maternal grandparents are John and Linda Waters of Fort Gibson.

Paternal grandparents are Brenda Freeman of Muskogee and the late James Kilgore Jr.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Merton and Rae Waters and the late Wesley and Georgia Wood.

Paternal great grandparents are Billye Kilgore of Muskogee and the late James Kilgore, Sr. and the late late N.W. and Opal King.

He has one sister Savana, age seven.

Birthdays

Okmulgee boy celebrates fourth birthday

JENKS— Eco Tasahce Barnett celebrated his birthday on April 6 with a party at the Oklahoma Aquarium.

Barnett turned four on April 1. He belongs to Ecovlke and Ocevpofv Tribal Town and is the son of Hotvlke and Kvncate Tribal Town.

Barnett

Eco is the son of Stephanie Berryhill of Okmulgee and Roger Barnett of Bristow.

Maternal grandparents are Jo Ann Skaggs of Eufaula and Michael and Julia Berryhill of Henryetta.

Paternal grandparents are Rachel Barnett of Bristow and the late Joseph Barnett of Bristow.

He is the great grandson of the late Drennon and Maybell Hawkins Skaggs of Stidham; the late Thomas and Blanch Pakoska Berryhill of Wilson Community; the late Solomon and Nicey Wilson, Kvncate area; and the late James and Lizzie Barnett of Bristow.

Davis celebrates 32nd birthday

OKEMAH — Maggie Davis celebrated her 32nd birthday on Sept. 28 at home with family and friends.

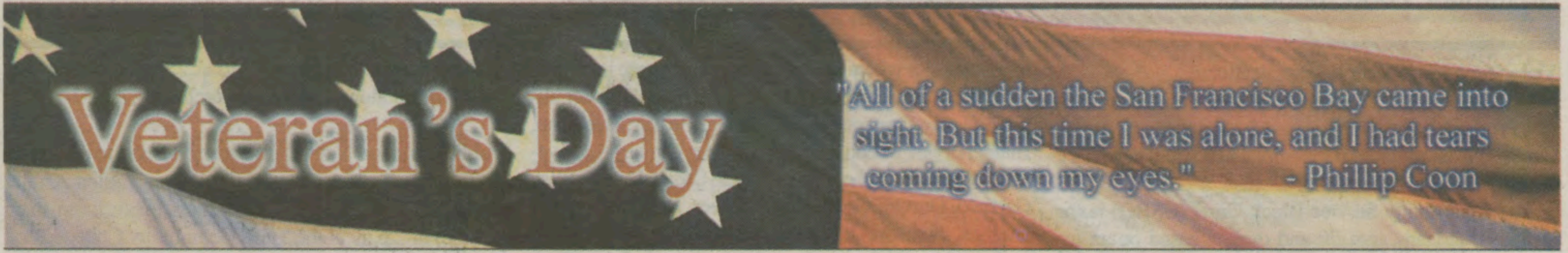
Davis

She is the daughter of Johnie and Darie Hicks of Okemah.

Maternal grandparents are the late Frank and Annie Billy of Checotah.

Paternal grandparents are the late Charley and Mable Davis of Broken Bow.

Maggie belongs to the Deer Clan.



"All of a sudden the San Francisco Bay came into sight. But this time I was alone, and I had tears coming down my eyes." - Phillip Coon

Creek Veterans saw war differently

by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee (Creek) Veterans of WWII, from little farms near places such as Preston or Twin Hills, to bigger places like Eufaula or Tulsa, saw this monuemental event differently. Some were raised in the Muscogee (Creek) churches, others raised in the traditional ceremonial tribal towns. Either way, they were to be involved with the largest world event of the 20th century.

How they prepared for it, how they endured it, and how they lived after it was over is something unique. In 1996, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department produced a documentary entitled '*World War II: A Muscogee Creek Retrospect*'. The production highlighted several Creek Veterans during the era of World War II and the 1940's in general.

In honor of Veterans Day, the MNN would like to share with you some excerpts from this documentary-

PRE WAR:

"In the thirties, I was going to school at Kellyville. We had a ball team and during the summer we had an independent team. We played ball all year," — Mose Cawhee

"When we had depression, we weren't starving because we had everything we needed on the farm, with the exception of money, money we didn't have." — Charlie Coker

"I took agri-culture when I was at Chilocco. About a year or two later, I was the President of the Future Farmers of America. I was in the band. I learned how to play the saxaphone." — Jim Wildcat

"I was still in High School. I graduated in 1941 and we were just not aware of that (world events). We were more interested if Preston was going to beat Schulter in a ball game." — Jorene Coker

"There was nothing else to really do in those days, except they had church meetings. Oh my God, they really did have church meetings. I mean people really went to Church!" — Monroe Sulphur

"At the school that I was going to, I learned how to become a barber, so I started doing that. I charged students 10 cents a haircut." — Phillip Coon

"In those days, there wasn't no bus. On the rainy days, well, here come the kids down the road just a hollering and singing and carrying on. It would be pouring down rain and boy we would go in the school. Boy we would have muddy shoes, our clothes would just be wet as we sit in the desks!" — Mose Cawhee

FAREWELL:

"Well, my Mother was hurt when I told her I was going overseas. But I told her just worry about these boys (brothers) *here, because I knew I was coming back."* — Joe Smith

"I told my Mother, I'm going. She said good luck I guess. I hope you make it alright." — Kenneth Moore

"They (parents) *would just shake your hand and turn around. They just couldn't take it."* — Monroe Sulphur

"My mother said she already had a boy in the war and now I am going to go. She just about got sick over it, it was more than she could handle." — Mose Cawhee

"My aunt, when I was getting ready to leave, she gave me a necklace with something on it. She said 'wear this, you'll never be thirsty'. So I did. I wore it everyday till I got home." — Jim Wildcat

"At that time, I believe the Chief was John Davis. He gave a farewell speech to the men. He said he would keep us in his prayers." — Charlie Coker

WAR:

"I woke up about daylight. I couldn't see anything, explosions started going off all around us. We were in an artillery barage. I guess that was the first time I really prayed." — Ed Moore

"Finally the word got out, this is the group that is going to make the invasion. The next day, sure enough, Eisenhower came and talked to us. He said feel honored that you were picked to make this invasion.' — Mose Cawhee

"The tank unit I was in was camped out for the night inside a barn. Well, a german unit stops in front of the barn to rest or something. We could hear them talking. They were just in front of us on the other side of the wall. We let our fire go and gave them misery. There were grown men crying for their mamas." — Monroe Sulphur

COMING HOME:

"When we were leaving the U.S. on a ship, a friend of mine from Cherokee, North Carolina named Jacob Cornsilk, asked me to come to the back of the ship. He said if we get back, he kept saying if we get back, lets come to the front of the ship as we see the U.S. again. Would you shake hands with me on that he said. I said I'll do it for you Jake. He didn't say nothing else. I looked up at him, he had tears coming down his eyes. On the ship coming home, everyone was excited because they knew we were getting close to home. Then it hit me, I got to get to the front of the ship. All of a sudden the San Francisco Bay came into sight. But this time I was alone, and I had tears coming down my eyes." — Phillip Coon

The Creek Nation Honor Guard stands at attention at the opening ceremony of the Moving Wall Memorial held at the Claude Cox Omniplex. *photo by Gerald Wofford*

Vision program is accepting applications

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Vision Program is accepting request for applications. Applications will be returned if incomplete and if all necessary documents are not submitted.

The Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) is for Native Americans ages 50 and over is based on an income guideline and applicants must reside within the Creek Nation boundaries.

Prior approval must be obtained before an appointment can be scheduled with a contract optometrist.

The contract provider will be responsible for collecting from third party resources. Each individual is eligible to receive up to $145 for total vision care. The program pays $55 towards an eye exam and $90 towards frames and lenses.

For more information or to request an application, please call the Contract Health office at (918) 758-2710.

Driveway repair application

OKMULGEE — The Driveway Repair application is for the maintenance of accessible driveways for Muscogee (Creek) Nation property owners who reside within the territorial jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

This program addresses the needs of Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens to repair or replace existing driveways. The selection of eligible families/individuals to participate in this program will be made by the Tribal Driveways program manager. Selection shall be based on: all the factors contained in the application; an on-site inspection of the land/property; and the amount of funding currently available.

A copy of tribal enrollment and deed to the property are required documentation. Failure to include any of the above listed information will delay the application process and the applicant will be notified by mail of the necessary information before the application will be processed. Applicants will receive an on-site inspection letter by mail.

Eligibility will be limited to no more than one service every four years for the property seeking services. There must be an existing driveway on the property to be eligible. Due to limited funding, projects will not exceed $5,000 for materials. Priority will be given to the elderly, applicants who are suffering from a severe health problem, handicap or permanent disability and driveways that are rapidly deteriorating.

For more information or to obtain an application, contact Thomasine Long at 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7651 or Bob Arrington at ext. 7650. Mail application to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation; c/o Tribal Driveways Program; Attn.: Driveway Repair Application; P.O. Box 580; Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Farm service agency emergency loans available

OKEMAH —The United States Department of Agriculture has announced that 59 counties in Oklahoma have been declared in an emergency disaster declaration due to damages and losses caused by drought that began July 1. The following counties in Oklahoma were declared primary counties where federal disaster assistance including farm service emergency (EM) loans are available for eligible family farmers: Alfalfa, Atoka, Beaver, Beckman, Blaine, Bryan, Caddo, Canadian, Carter, Cimarron, Cleveland, Coal, Comanche, Cotton, Creek, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Garfield, Garvin, Grady, Grant, Greer, Harmon, Harper, Hughes, Jackson, Johnston, Kay, Kingfisher, Kiowa, Latimer, Lincoln, Logan, Love, Major, Marshall, McClain, McIntosh, Murry, Muskogee, Noble, Okfuskee, Oklahoma, Okmulgee, Osage, Pawnee, Payne, Pittsburg, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, Roger Mills, Seminole, Stephens, Texas, Tillman, Washita, Woods, and Woodward.

In addition, the following counties were named as contiguous counties where eligible family farmers may also qualify for FSA EM loan assistance: Cherokee, Choctaw, Haskell, Jefferson, LeFlore, Pushmataha, Sequoyah, Tulsa, Wagoner, and Washington.

The application deadline for assistance in the disaster stricken counties is June 1, 2004. Emergency loan funds may be used to purchase seed, fertilizer, fuel, and repairs.

To be eligible for a loan, an applicant must have suffered losses as a direct result of the disaster and be unable to get credit from other sources. Loans covering actual losses are at an interest rate of 3.75 per cent, per annum. The amount of the loan is determined by actual certification of loss less any compensation received, repayment capacity of the borrower, and availability of security.

Farmers and ranchers who believe they can qualify should contact their County FSA office for additional details. For Okfuskee/Creek counties contact Sue Beets at (918) 623-1318 ext. 107.

California Muscogee (Creek) Association meeting

DOWNEY, CA. — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association will meet on Dec. 6 at the Dennis the Menace Park located at 9125 Arrington Ave. Major cross streets are Lakewood and Gallatin, just off the I-5 Freeway. The park is located behind Ralph's Super Market. All Creeks are encouraged to attend.

TCIC will hold a Christmas Bazaar

TULSA— The Tulsa Creek Indian Community Center will hold a Christmas Bazaar on Dec. 6 from 8 to 3 p.m.

Free admission and open to the public. Many items for sale: Christmas ornaments, gift baskets, keychains, etc. Concession will be available.

Booth fees are $12 with your own table and chairs and $15 to use the community centers.

For more information call (918) 298-2464.

All Tribes Community Church will present nativity

TULSA— All Tribes Community Church presents a Native American nativity, "T'was in the moon of wintertime," on Dec. 12 and 13 at 7 p.m

Dinner will be available at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m nightly for $5 per person. Chili, crackers, and dessert will be served on Friday and corn soup, fry bread, and grape dumplings on Saturday.

All Tribes Church is located at 2501 E. Archer. For more information contact the church at (918) 832-1891.

Public forum on Native American Mascots to be held

TULSA — The Greater Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Commission will hold their third annual public forum to on Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Tulsa Community College West campus, located at 7505 W. 41st.

A panel of noted citizens and business professionals will discuss the use of Native American mascots. Louis Gray will serve as the moderator.

The commission is also hosting a blanket drive to collect new or clean, used blankets for homeless citizens of the greater Tulsa area.

For more information call (918) 694-7777.

All-Indian youth basketball tournament to be held

DEWAR — The First Annual Warriors Showcase Shootout All-Indian Basketball Tournament will be held on Nov. 28 and 29 at the Dewar High School Gymnasium.

The double elimination tournament will consist of three age divisions for boys and girls: seven to eight year old; nine to 11 year old; and 12 to 14 year old.

Entry fees for each division is as follows: seven to eight, $35; nine to 11, $45; and 12 to 14, $50. Deadline for entries is Nov. 17. Late entries will be accepted until Nov. 21 with an additional $10. Money orders or cash will only be accepted.

Only eight teams per division will be accepted. Team rosters are limited to eight players. Each team member must provide a CDIB card and a copy of their birth certificate in order to participate in the tournament.

For an entry form or for more information contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 732-7634 or after 5 p.m. at (918) 650-3920.

Indian Fellowship Baptist church dedication

OAKHURST — The Indian Fellowship Baptist Church dedicated their new fellowship hall to the Lord on Oct. 5.

Guest speakers were: the Rev. Bill Raines, First Baptist Church of Tulsa; Rev. Bo Holland, Tulsa Metro Baptist Association; and Rev. George Doyle, Bemo Indian Baptist Church.

To honor the Pastor, the new building was named the "Rev. William Alexander Fellowship Hall."

Over 150 members of other Creek churches were in attendance. Dinner and open house followed the dedication ceremony.

Benefit gospel singing to be held

SEMINOLE — An indoor benefit gospel singing will be held on Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m.

The singing will be held at the Mekesukey Mission gym with Larry Harrison of Lively Stone being the master of ceremonies.

All singers and listeners are welcome to attend. Bring your own lawn chairs. Concession will be available. Hosted by New Creations c/o Ministry of Life Church. Proceeds will go to March 2004 NC 6th annual youth rally.

Diabetes program reaches out to youth

OKEMAH — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Diabetes Prevention Program is reaching out to American Indian youth through different educational and physically active programs.

Eufaula Boarding School Youth participate in an activity within the PRIDE Program. *photo submitted*

A life-style of overeating and lack of physical activity is what leads to a person getting diabetes, specifically Type 2 Diabetes. A growing number of children and adolescents are developing Type 2 Diabetes. Type 2 Diabetes increased 68% from 1991-1998 in American Indian Youth ages 15-19 ("Diabetes and Youth Alert" NDEP Association of American Indian Physicians). The good news is that diabetes can be prevented. A recent study (Diabetes Prevention Program Study) proved that diabetes can be prevented by moderate weight loss and increasing daily physical activity to 30 minutes per day. These daily health habits need to be developed during youth.

"Our youth need to understand that by making regular exercise and healthy food choices an early life-styles, they can prevent diabetes," stated Johnnie B.

The following youth prevention programs are being offered: Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. (Preventing and Reducing Indian Diabetes Everyday) - Eufaula Boarding school - Diabetes Prevention and education for the 3rd - 6th grade students at the boarding school; Hop to Stop Diabetes - Okemah Middle School jump rope program - An after school jump rope club for the 5th - 8th grade students at the middle School; and "MOVE IT! and Prevent Diabetes" - Stidham, Hanna, Dustin, Ryal schools. A school wide exercise program aimed at increasing the physical activity level of all the students involved. This program is for first through sixth grade students at each school.

Similar programs will be offered in the future at different locations throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

National Diabetes Month

OKLAHOMA CITY— The Association of American Indian Physicians/National Diabetes Education Program is encouraging healthy lifestyles and physical activity by promoting November as National Diabetes Month. In conjunction with "National Diabetes Month" the association is offering mini-grants in the amount of $500.00 to assist in implementing physical activities at the community level.

The grants are being offered to Native American and Alaska Native communities, churches, organizations and Tribal diabetes programs that have partnered with Association of American Indian Physicians to campaign against diabetes. Fun Runs and walkathons are examples of the physicals activities that a community can sponsor.

For more information or to request an application call the AAIP Diabetes toll free number 877.943.4299.

Creek Nation Vocation Rehabilitation

OKEMAH— The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Services is a program that provides assistance to American Indians with Disabilities to acquire the skills needed to find or maintain gainful employment.

A person may be found eligible for services depending on his or her individual needs. Referral services are provided for those who need specific information regarding disabilities, providers, and other resources available.

For more information come by the office located at 213 N. 3rd St. in Okemah or call(918)623-1197 1-888-367-2332. All information is kept confidential.

Tobacco Prevention Program

OKMULGEE - The Tobacco Prevention Program, recently received a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. It is a 24 month grant to support policy advocacy in tobacco related issues. The grant is being made under the Foundation's program, Policy Advocacy on Tobacco and Health: An inititative to build Capacity in Communities for Tobacco Policy Change.

The Robert Wood Foundation, based in Princeton, NJ is the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to health and health care. It concentrates its grant making in four goal areas: to assure that all Americans have accessibility to quality health care and reasonable costs; to improve the quality of care and support for people with chronic health conditions; to promote healthy communities and lifestyles; and to reduce the personal, social and economic harm caused by substance abuse - tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs.

The prevalance of cigarette smoking is highest among American Indian/Native Alaska natives, and commercial tobacco use increase the risk factors for heart disease (#1 cause of death), diabetes, cancer (malignant neoplasm), chronic liver disease/cirrhosis and stroke - all leading causes of death for American Indians.

Considering the unique relationship American Indians have with tobacco, it is extremely important to take the time and energy to proceed with caution in developing tobacco-related policy changes. Cultural preservation is important to the Muscogee people.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program is dedicated to educating American Indian/Alaska Natives of all ages on the harmful effects of commercial tobacco while encouraging sacred ceremonial use. Our vision is to eliminate commercial tobacco abuse.

Diabetes Control shows steady improvement

OKMULGEE — The DHA started a new program called the "Diabetes Prevention and Management Program" in 1999. The DHA hired new staff members at each clinic to provide and coordinate these services. They also work with the clinic teams to improve diabetes care and assure that supplies for self management are available.

This program focuses most of it's efforts on Diabetes self management education. The program "Educating Partners in Care" acheived National Recognition from the Indian Health Service Diabetes Program in January in 2002. This qualifies the program for reimbursement by Medicare and other insurers. A great deal of gratitude goes to the Special Diabetes Grant for Indians. Recently we have learned that the grant has been extended for 5 more years. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is making positive changes in diabetes care and it's outcome. Together we will find a way to meet the continuing old challenges of diabetes and take advantage of the new opportunities for diabetes prevention.

For more information or comments, call you local clinic, or the Diabetes office at the Division of Health at Lackey at 918.756.3334X237.

Pink party for breast cancer awareness

OKMULGEE - Okmulgee Indian Health Center held a "Pink Party" celebrating October as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" on Oct. 29.

Cherokee Nation Breast and Cervical Early Detection Program and Okmulgee Memorial Hospital displayed exhibits and encouraged support of mammograms for Creek patients.

Refreshments and Door prizes were provided by Dr. Lois Beard and Teri Garner-ARNP.

Pictured above, from left to right, are: Jennifer Lackey, LPN; Jana Ross, RN Public Health Nurse; Loretta Denny, LPN Cherokee Nation; Dr. Lois Beard, Okmulgee Health Center Clinical Director; Teri Garner, ARNP; and Caleen Bolin, Cherokee Nation. *photo by Ruth Bible*

Shop talk with Gerald

As football rolls along it won't be long before the sound of a roundball will be heard in your local gymnasium. A lot of the smaller schools around get an early jump on the basketball season. Nothing seems to excite a small Indian community better than the beginning of basketball season.

Louis Hicks, Superintendent at Ryal school, south of Henryetta, sheds some insight on the almost *cult* status of basketball in this area.

"It's inside, baseball kind of faded, and basketball is exciting and faster with a lot of action," said Hicks. "The older ones that live around here like to come out and coach too," he laughs.

Ryal School, which only goes to the eighth grade, believes in starting their kids early in the game of basketball. Other small schools such as Wilson, Dewar, Lone Star, and Liberty believe in starting early as well. Get out and support your local school during the basketball season this winter.

The latest installation of "Fight Night" occurred last month at the Tulsa Creek Nation Bingo Casino. The fight card featured the "Creek Warrior" B.J. Waggnor in a scheduled 6 round middleweight fight against Ronnie Davis of Topeka, Kansas. But just before the fight, Davis was disqualified for medical reasons. But just like the theatre, the show must go on. A last minute replacement, by the name of Kenny Manue, was put in by promoter Tony Holden. Waggnor, who had never fought at the middleweight level before, made easy pickings of his opponent, winning by unanimous decision. The crowd and a Cox Cable television audience watching at home was not surprised by the outcome. It was what he was expected to do. But what Waggnor may do in the future with his boxing career is still up in the air.

Waggnor

In the September issue of the MNN, a request was put out for you the reader to submit information about any Creek athletes that you feel deserves special recognition and deserves proper attention on our sports page. At press time, the MNN has still not received any information and would certainly like to showcase any young Creek athlete, regardless of sport. There are some good Creek athletes out there, and we would certainly like to let others know about them.

And finally, lets give a big cheer to the Creek Nation Running Team. The team participated in the 25th Annual Tulsa Run on Saturday, October 25. The team had its largest number of members so far with 19 signing up for the 15K (9.3 miles) and the 5K (3.2 miles). The team drew special inspiration running by the historical Council Oak tree in Tulsa.

Creek runner meets all challenges

If ever you are ever around the Tribal Capital of Okmulgee, chances are you might see a Creek runner pounding the pavement as she prepares for a 10 mile run, 15 mile run, or even a marathon. She is Lila Garrett.

Garrett

Garrett is an avid runner and has been for at least the last five years. Garrett began to look at running on a more serious basis when she was approached to join the Creek Nation Tulsa Running Team. The team started in 1999.

The team was entering a five kilometer run, which is the distance of 3.2 miles. Garrett finished the run and liked the challenge of it.

Now she began looking for another challenge. The thought of participating in the Tulsa Run, which consist of a 15 kilometers (9.3 miles) was new to Garrett, but as any athlete may do, she was up to the task.

After successfully competing for two years in the Tulsa Run, Garrett was up for an even bigger challenge. She heard of the Tulsa Half-Marathon, a race that consisted of 13 miles. She increased her training and distance. Two months after she completed the Tulsa Run, Garrett finished the half-marathon.

But what does a runner think after finishing a half-marathon? Why not try a full marathon, 26 grueling miles that tests the will and stamina of an athlete.

Oklahoma City had created a memorial marathon run in 2001 to remember those lost in the 1999 Murrah Building catastrophe.

Garrett again took on the challenge and finished the race. Since that inaugural run in 2001, Garrett has made the memorial marathon a part of her yearly running schedule.

She was also instrumental in giving the official name to the Creek Nation Running Team. Team members were asked to submit a suggestion for a team title. Garrett presented the name of *LETKV.* Which is pronounced in English as Leet-Ka. The word means runner in the Muscogee (Creek) Language.

"I will always run and see the benefits of more than just a physical reward," says Garrett. "I encourage other Native Americans who may be thinking about running, but are not sure if they can, to go ahead and just do it."

Oktaha hurler shines on the diamond

Throwing a perfect game in your softball career is quite phenomenal. To do it twice is absolutely incredible. Missy Fox, a junior at Oktaha Schools, has accomplished that amazing feat. Fox threw a perfect game against Oklahoma Union this year, and as a freshman at Checotah High School she threw a perfect game against McAlester.

Fox

Fox was also part of another unique feat in softball history. She pitched a 22 inning game against Tahlequah this past season, losing that game 1 to 0. The marathon contest set an Oklahoma High School record for the longest regular season softball game ever played. The next day against Pryor she threw five innings and lost in the bottom of the seventh 1 to 0 on an error.

Eventhough Fox has suffered some heartbreaking losses, she has also enjoyed much success on the mound. During the summer, Fox spent her playing time with the Oklahoma Phillies, along with fellow Creek pitcher Sammie Rabbit , who was featured in the October issue of the *Muscogee Nation News.* The Phillies placed first in the Creek Nation Festival women's fast-pitch tournament and Fox was named the Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

Fox's pitching prowess was noticed by the *Muskogee Magic*. The team asked her to join their team for the American Fast-Pitch Association (AFA) 16 & under National Tournament in Kansas. Fox led the team to a championship title.

Her many accomplishments and accolades earned her an invitation to accompany the Tulsa Eagles to a round robin tournament consisting of 92 teams in Houston. The Eagles are known nationally for having the "Cream of the Crop" softball players in the region.

Softball seems to run in the Fox family. She has three sisters that also play the sport. Sisters Madyson, Emery, and Sagan have also been known to sport the mitt and have success on the diamond as well.

Emery, also a pitcher, was named the Most Valuable Player of this year's AFA Fast-Pitch 10 & under national tournament held in Kansas this past summer.

Missy loves the sport of softball and has set her sights on making it to the next level, but knows she must do her part.

"She is always working," said her father Brad. "There may be a month where she takes a little time off, but then she is back on the field and working out."

Missy's plans on attending college and pursuing a coaching and teaching degree.

Veteran
Spotlight

Creek woman honored as veteran of the year

- Story page 6

Arbeka Methodist Church celebrates 119 years

- Story page 9

BULLDOGS
EDMOND MEMORIAL

SPORTS

Edmond Memorial pitcher earns athletic scholarship

- Story page 12

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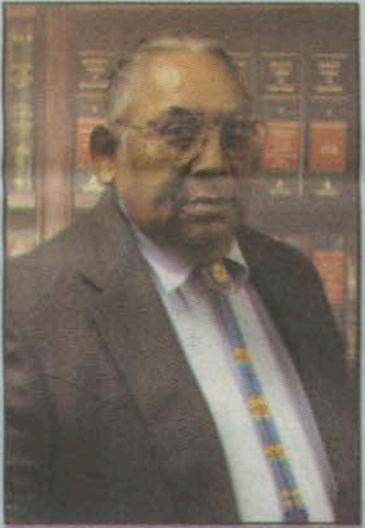
Berryhill credits Christian heritage for campaign victory

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Chief elect Alfred Berryhill grew up on the Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church grounds, north of Okmulgee. His parents, the late Lilly Belle Starr (King) and Togo Mekko Berryhill, raised Alfred on and around the church on Celia Berryhill road. His father was a minister. According to Berryhill, both parents made sure he did his chores at home and at church.



His dad instilled the value of education in him and encouraged him to attend college. He attended Preston school until his freshman year, then went on to Seqoyah High School in Tahlequah. From there he attended Haskell Junior College in Lawrence, Kansas and Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, where he majored in business.

In November of 1998, he was ordained as a deacon. His wish is to revive that old way, the traditional way of worship, as his parents and grandparents did. Alfred believes those very spiritual values instilled in him at a young age helped him enjoy success and change his life.

"I give credit to God, my campaign manager," said Berryhill. "At one point in my life I felt as though I was at a threshold, not sure to go on in or take a step back. But God opens the door nobody can close, he closes a door nobody can open."

Second Chief elect Berryhill wants to express his gratitude to all those who believed in him and supported him during his campaign.

Chief Beaver reflects about political career as end of his term draws near

OKMULGEE — January 2, 2004 marks the last official business day in the executive position of current Muscogee (Creek) Principal Chief R. Perry Beaver. Beaver, who also served on the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, is completing his second four year term as Principal Chief.

"I never thought about being Chief when I was growing up," said Beaver. "It was something I thought I would never be doing."

But it was always the lure of leadership that prompted Beaver. From a country boy growing up around Morris, Oklahoma to meeting Presidents in Washington, D.C., these events didn't just happen overnight. There was a reason, a goal to reach for more in the future.

Sports would be the ticket for Beaver to make something of himself. Beaver graduated from Morris and received a scholarship to play college football at Northeastern State Louisiana. "We didn't have the best teams back then, but we were alright," recalls Beaver.

Eventually Beaver would get into coaching and make a name for himself at Jenks High School. While at Jenks, he would build up the school Indian Education Program, as well as become a part of the Tulsa Creek Indian Community (TCIC).

Beaver would help serve in various capacities for TCIC. It was at this time that Beaver was approached by Principal Chief Claude A. Cox with a suggestion.

"Perry, he said, why don't you run for a seat on the National Council?" Beaver recalls. "At first I didn't really think much about it. I initially told him no. I am too busy coaching right now."

Beaver was also concerned about any possible conflict of interests in his position as coach at Jenks High School. However, Beaver did consider a chance in the political arena. "I went to the school board and asked them if their would be any conflict if I did consider running for the National Council of the Creek Nation," said Beaver.. "They were all for me running for office."

So with the coaxing of Chief Cox and other members of the community, Beaver threw his hat in the political ring and ran a seat in the Creek Nation National Council representing the Tulsa District.

"I can't say I really did a lot of campaigning," said Beaver. "I just put my name out there and didn't put

please see **BEAVER**..., page 3

Inauguration being held for executive, legislative leaders

OKMULGEE — The Inauguration of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, and 26 National Council representatives will begin at 2 p.m., Jan. 10 at Covelle Hall, OSU-Okmulgee.

The theme for inauguration 2004 is "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation: Building a Progressive Future by Practicing Self-determination — Through action, not words."

Amos McNac will serve as master of ceremonies of the event. OSU-Okmulgee is located at 1801 E. 4th St. For more information, call (918) 732-7604 or 732-7605.

Office of the Principal Chief...

by R. Perry Beaver

I wish to express my thanks to each of you for your support. My term as your chief will soon be over. I have truly enjoyed the eight years I have served as the Principal Chief of this great Nation. I have seen the tribe make great strides in all aspects of our government and economic endeavors as well. I have every confidence that our nation will continue to grow and prosper.

I realize no one can do all or please all, all the time, however, I have tried to make decisions that I thought would be most effective on what was best for the tribe.

We, as a tribe, with unity, compassion and patience can accomplish more than ever. Our youth are being educated and yet are coming back and caring about their history and culture and want to assist the tribe. I see our future being even better.

Again, I thank you and wish all a "Joyous Holiday Season."

National Council Representative thanks voters

Editor:

I wish to thank all precinct and absentee voters who participated in the November 8, 2003 General Election. I am both grateful and humbled that you have reelected me to serve as your Tulsa District Representative to the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for the next two (2) years. At the highest degree, I will live up to your faith and trust in reelecting me. I am extremely optimistic that the other four (4) Tulsa District Representatives and myself can have an immediate and positive impact in passing legislation that benefits not only the Tulsa District, but the entire Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a whole. My goal is to serve you, the voter, as your servant. I want you to feel free to call, write, or fax me anytime with your questions, concerns, and input. The makeup of our new National Council is very encouraging. I see positive signs for excellent cooperation between the newly elected Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill from the Administration and the National Council who represents the legislative branch. As such, better services and expanded programs through increased direct client coverage for our tribal citizens in all areas should and must be our primary objective. First and foremost, let us never forget, that we as elected officials are here to serve you! God bless you all. *Mvto!*

Ronald Cleghorn, Tulsa

Institute looking for teachers

Editor:

The Mvskoke Language Institute is looking for several (10) citizens who can teach the Mvskoke Language.

We are sending out applications to anyone interested in learning about teaching methods and can come to Okmulgee this Spring Semester. For information contact Ted Isham at 918-756-2324 and ask for an application. We hope to develop a pool of teachers to draw from as the Nation involves itself in language preservation in the future.

Ted Isham, Okmulgee

Vocational Rehabilitation says "Happy Holidays"

Editor:

The staff of Vocational Rehabilitation Services would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation and "Happy Holidays" to the Principal Chief, Second Chief, National Council, Health Systems Board, and employees of the Division of Health Administration for your assistance in the development of this program. *Mvto.*

Mary Lee, Okemah

Editor's note: Mary Lee is the Okemah Vocational Rehabilitation Coordinator.

Mvskoke elders wanted for Smithsonian trip

Editor:

I have asked the National Council for $70,000 for a trip

please see **TRIP**..., page 3

Second opinion

by Second Chief A.D. Ellis

Seasons Greetings, to all Creek citizens from the Office of Second Chief. This will probably be the last Second Opinion article from me & I appreciate the many comments received during the last four years.

I have always enjoyed the personal contact between myself and our citizens. I will continue to be very visible as your Principal Chief. I look forward to the town meeting that I intend to start in the near future. These meetings with staff members from different programs will give the administration direct input to some of the problems that our people face.

I am confident that **Second Chief Berryhill** will continue to improve the Second Chief's office as an advocate of our people. My position as Chief will involve more & more dealings with national issues so I won't be as available as in the past. As always the Chief's office has an open door policy to all citizens.

I welcome all Creek citizens to attend the Inauguration January 10th at 2:00 p.m., at OSU Tech in Okmulgee. Call if you need directions.

Due to the condition throughout the world & opportunities available, the time has come for our nation to move forward and begin an aggressive economic move to provide the people with a greater future. Our tribal boundaries contain Tulsa, the interstate system, and inland waterways plus a great supply of labor.

We are situated in the best location of any Indian nation in Oklahoma and we intend to make the best use of this area. The nation as a whole is better off than we were four years ago.

I want to thank **Principal Chief Beaver** for his long service to the Creek Nation. Many changes have occurred during the last eight years and will effect our nation for years ahead. In closing, I ask for the prayers from all our people for the ability to make decisions that will only make things better. Remember our less fortunate Creek families who are doing without during the holidays. Also the men & women in the military who make the American way of life possible. Merry Christmas and have a safe and joyous holidays.

Mvto.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to ***The Muscogee Nation News***, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in ***The Muscogee Nation News***, guest columns, and readers' letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of ***The Muscogee Nation News***, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of every month.** ***The Muscogee Nation News*** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate ***The Muscogee Nation News*** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

Lucas Taylor, managing editor
Denise Jacobs, editorial assistant
Gerald Wofford, photography/writer
Ruth Bible, page layout
Jennifer Taryole, circulation

Trip

continued from page 2

to Washington D.C. in August for the opening of the Smithsonian Museum for the American Indian.

I am wanting to take one-hundred elders to this event. In order to be a part of this event you must be an active member of your chartered community and an active member of your chartered community senior group.

There will be a meeting January 15, 2004 at ten o'clock at the Okmulgee Indian Community. You may call me at 918-759-2459. Coffee and donuts will be served. *Mvto*.

Esther Grona, Okmulgee

November District Court filings

Civil Actions:

- Security Finance vs. Sharon Whitecloud
- Elinor Self vs. Nicole Palmore
- Kristi Doyle Colbert vs. Phillip Warrior
- Muskogee Regional Medical Center vs. Bethany Cheater
- Richard Andrew Randalman Name Change
- Greenwood Trust Co. vs. Darrell Loyd
- Discover Bank vs. Rayna E. Butler
- Muscogee (Creek) National Council vs. R. Perry Beaver, Principal Chief; SGS, L.L.C & Housing Authority of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma

Protective Orders:

- Michelle Chavez vs. Ernest Chavez & Melissa McHalland
- Jenna Gouge vs. Edna Gouge
- Lauren Goodvoice vs. Nicole Cutten
- Lauren Goodvoice vs. Nicole Cutten

Marriage:

- Willie Haney Jr. & Jamie Parker

Divorce:

- Jay Matthew Johnson vs. Myndi Lynn Johnson
- Donna Elaine Wetselline vs. Terry Alan Wetselline
- Neta Jane Horton vs. Mirl Elija Horton
- Charlene Gayle Deere vs. David Wayne Deere

Criminal-felony:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Edd Dwaine Russell Jr.

— count 1: Possession of Illegal Drug
— count 2: Possession of Paraphernalia
— count 3: Possession of Stolen Property

Traffic:

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Troy Custer

— count 1: Possession of Parahernalia
— count 1: Driving with out Required Registration
— count 1: Driving in Violation of Court Order

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Leroy Roberts

— count 1: Driving with out Required Registration
— count 1: Driving in Violation of Court Order
— count 1: Driving with out Required Registration

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. James Stone

— count 1: Disorderly Conduct

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Bridgette Warbow

— count 1: Disorderly Conduct

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation vs. Michael Resler

— count 1: Disorderly Conduct

Beaver

continued from page 1

much stock into campaigning."

Apparently the name recognition of Beaver was enough for him to win the election. Beaver's first taste of political life had started. He would serve in the National Council from 1982 until 1988.

Former Chief Claude Cox and present Chief Beaver.

"Serving on the Council was a lot different back then," said Beaver. "It seems like we didn't have as much issues to face like they do today. At one time, there was only 12 seats on the Council, so I was just one vote among twelve."

A change of events in other tribal political offices in the year 1988 would alter Beaver's course forever.

"George Miller resigned his position as second Chief," said Beaver. "I decided to run for the position and was elected Second Chief."

Beaver would win the abrupt election and begin a four year term as Second Chief. He would serve under Chief Cox's administration. Cox was into his fifth and final term as Principal Chief.

Serving as Second Chief made the two time state championship coach seriously look at running for the office of Principal Chief. In 1992, the Cox era would be end and Beaver would run for the top office.

Chief Beaver greets a tribal elder.

"I remember being on the campaign trail," said Beaver. "James King,, who was also running for Chief at the time, was getting ready to talk before an audience. We both really didn't know what to expect and everything. I asked James if he wanted to see my speech. He laughed and said okay. I showed him a blank piece of paper and we both just laughed about it."

Beaver would not win the election. Bill Fife, who had served on the National Council with Beaver, would claim the top spot and serve a four year term.

Although he didn't win in 92, the experience would prove valuable for Beaver. He knew he had to create a more aggressive and visible campaign if he wanted to serve as the leader of the tribe.

In 1996, Beaver hit the campaign trail and once again ran for the office of Principal Chief. He won the election and become just the third Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in modern times.

In January of 1996, the Beaver era began with an elaborate Inauguration ceremony inside the building of the Creek Nation Okmulgee Casino. A fitting location to a leader who, along with Chief Cox and fellow council members of the 1980's, had proved their tribal sovereignty through aggressive businesses like the casinos.

Beaver looked back at that special time of his Inauguration and recalls the foundation that Chief Cox had given him and the tribe.

"Chief Cox was wise," stated Beaver. " When he first served as Chief, his office was downtown and he only had a secretary. He was a politician and he knew how to get things done. He had a vision and he worked well with what he had. That was one of the reasons I ran. I thought I could really help the Creek Nation."

Beaver compared the gradual progression of his political career to his coaching career. "First I was an assistant coach and later I became a head coach," he says. "My political career followed the same pattern. First I was on the Council, then served as Second Chief, and finally, Principal Chief."

Although Beaver is very pleased to have served as Chief, he admits it wasn't all roses. "Its true what they say about it being lonely at the top," Beaver admits. "All the decisions I have had to make in this office have been tough ones. I often go back to my philosophy of coaching football. It all depended on how well you were prepared. If you are not prepared to do something, then don't make any decision about it. Don't make a bad decision and always have good people around you."

As the end of Beaver's term as Principal Chief draws near, he reflects about the progression of the Nation and his reign as Principal Chief.

"The tribe has grown," said Beaver. "Our riverside development project and the future Indian College helps lead the way into a new era. Economic development and education help raise the standards of living for our tribal citizens. I got to do a lot of things I never thought I would get to do. I was proud to serve the Creek people."

Social services announces field site dates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Social Services Department is accepting applications for Native Americans needing assistance with basic living needs (shelter and utility expenses) at field sites in: Eufaula; Holdenville; Okemah; Muskogee; and Sapulpa.

The field sites and dates are:

- Okemah Indian Community Center, 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Jan. 7 & 21 and Feb. 4 & 1.
- Eufaula Indian Community Center, 800 Forest Ave. — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Jan. 15 and Feb. 5 & 19.
- Sapulpa Indian Health Center, 1125 E. Cleveland — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Jan. 15 and Feb. 5 & 19.
- Holdenville Indian Community Center, 224 E. Poplar — applications will be accepted from 9 to 11 a.m., Jan. 6 & 20 and Feb. 3 & 17 and
- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 S. Virginia — applications will be accepted from 1 to 3 p.m., Jan. 6 and Feb. 3.

For more information call (918) 732-7618.

Social services out of funding

OKMULGEE— Due to lack of funding, Social Services will not be able accept applications for the Liheap & tribal energy assistance.

We apologize for any inconvenience. Please contact 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7620 if you have any questions.

All Nations Missions Center

MUSKOGEE— The All Nations Missions Center would like to invite everyone to join them for worship service on Sunday mornings at 11 a.m. Children's church and adult class are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

The church is located south of Muskogee, off main street at 1530 Smith Ferry Road. We would love to have you join us.

Youth all night 2003

YEAGER — The Wewoka United Methodist Church would like to invite all youth ages 12-18 years old to bring in the New Year with us from Dec. 31 at 7 p.m. to Jan. 1 to 9:30 a.m.

There will be games, food and fellowship all night long, as well as door prizes to be given away.

The church is located one mile north of Yeager Cemetery.

For more information contact: Denise Franks at (405) 379-9962 or LaKeshia Harper at (405) 379-2657.

Tribal citizens building grave houses

WELEETKA— Harjo & Sons are building grave houses and do lawn care all year round.

For more information contact Nelson or Bennie Harjo at (817)296-8346 or mail to: P.O. Box 146, Weleetka, OK 74880.

Benefit bingo for the Taryole family

OKMULGEE— The Taryole family will be holding a benefit bingo on Jan. 3 at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center.

Concession will be available beginning at 5:30 p.m.; minis start at 6:30 and regular bingo starts at 7 p.m.

For more information contact Betsy Taryole at (918) 652-8231 or Kenneth Taryole at (918) 756-8165.

Springfield Methodist to hold Christmas eve services

OKEMAH— Springfield Untied Methodist Church will be holding Christmas Eve services from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight.

Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information contact Ethel Humble at (918) 623-1710.

Koweta community is accepting applications

COWETA—The Koweta Indian Community is currently having a membership drive. If you live within the Muskogee (Creek) Nation Coweta bounders, please stop by Koweta Community Center or Koweta smoke shop to pick up an applications to register your family with the Koweta Community Center.

This information will be for office use only to aid in Indian population in Coweta and Koweta community activities.

Applications will be taken from Oct. 2003 through August 31, 2004 and reopen following October 2004. For more information call (918) 486-7764 during daytime hours.

Eufaula Dormitory selling t-shirts

EUFAULA— The Eufaula Dormitory seniors are selling t-shirts to raise money for their senior trip.

The t-shirts are $10 and we encourage all Eufaula dormitory alumni, former students and parents of students to help support our students.

The shirts will be white with black lettering that says "Eufaula Dormitory" with a Native American picture. A contest for the design on the t-shirt was won by Shane Harjo.

If you would like to purchase a t-shirt please call (918) 689-2522 or 1-800-896-3181. All orders must be prepaid.

Fire suppression program offers pack test

OKMULGEE— The Bureau of Indian Affairs and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Fire Suppression Program will be administering pack tests on Dec. 20 and 27 and Jan. 3, 10, 17, and 24.

Pack testing will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Testing dates will be cancelled in the event of rain, sleet, or snow. Tests will be administered at Harmon Stadium, Okmulgee High School football stadium. Emergency Medical Service will be present during all testing.

Participants will be required to carry a minimum of 45 pounds for three miles in 45 minutes or less. New recruits must provide a certificate degree of Indian blood or tribal citizenship cards. Recruits must also pick up medical examination forms from the fire management office and return it by the last date of pack testing. Qualified applicants will be sent to Ada for rookie wildland fire fighting training from Feb. 2 through 6.

Firefighters must also complete a 2003 refresher course, "Standard for Survival." The date for this course will be announced on the first day of the pack test.

The fire management office is located at 1006 E. Eufaula Street. For more information contact Jason Waquie or Willie Haney at (918) 752-0604.

National Native American youth initiative

OKLAHOMA CITY— The Association American Indian Physicians announces the 7th Annual National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) Program.

The program is an intense academic enrichment and reinforcement program consisting of mini-block courses teaching leadership, communication, study and testing skills, plus assertiveness, networking and professional behavior, interactive learning and time management.

Courses are designed to increase the student's background and skills in order to better prepare them to remain in the academic pipeline and pursue a career in the health professions and/or biomedical research. It is the goal of AAIP to prepare these student for admission to college and professional school, and empower them to utilize these skills.

Topics will be presented in a series of lectures, field trips, and tutorials. The summer program will inform students of the variety of health careers available to Native American youth. AAIP members, health professionals, and traditional healers will provide special lectures regarding personal experiences toward a health career and the collaboration between western and traditional medicine.

Native American high school students planning to enter the health professions between the ages of 16 and 18 years old are eligible to apply. Students must have:

- a minimum cumulative 2.0 GPA;
- one page essay expressing plans to enter the health professions (double-spaced);
- current academic transcripts;
- letter of recommendation from school counselor/teacher;
- primary data sheet; and
- photograph.

Selected scholars will receive all expenses paid. Each participant will be provided with room, board and travel during the week-long program. It will be necessary for individuals to bring extra monies for items, such as souvenirs, they may wish to purchase during their stay.

Applications are also available by way of the internet on the AAIP web site at http://www.aaip.com/student/nnayi.html. Only a limited number of students will be accepted, early application is encouraged. Deadline is May 14, 2004.

For more information contact Carla Guy at (405) 946-7072.

Births

Vernon Lynn Powell Jr.

OKMULGEE— Vernon Lynn Powell Jr. was born July 25 at Okmulgee Memorial hospital to Valerie Taryole and Vernon Powell Sr. of Okmulgee.

He weighed 9 pounds and 1 ounce and was 21 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Ken and Darlene Taryole of Okmulgee

Paternal grandparents are Pamela Johnson of Tulsa and Rick and Lisa Powell of Okmulgee.

Maternal great grandparents Sophia and the late Van Taryole of Okemah and the late John and Nancy Frank of Cromwell.

Powell

Paternal great grandparents are Lax and the late Bessie Johnson of Tulsa and the late David Logan Powell and Vena Mae Randall of Preston.

Vernon is a member of the Tukvpvtce Tribal Town and the Tiger Clan.

He has two brothers; Derrick and Topley and three sisters, Michaela, Sidney and Ayleah.

Alycia and Abigail Bible-Alvarez

TULSA—Alycia Anna Cruz and Abigail Rose Bible-Alvarez were born Sept. 3 at Peggy Helmich to Alexander Bible-Alvarez, Sr and Melisa Chuckluck of Bristow.

Alycia weighed 7 pounds and 2 ounces and was 19 inches in length and Abigail weighed 7 pounds and 7 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Bible-Alvarez

Maternal grandparents are Edward Alvarez of Dallas, TX and Alexis Bible-Crosley of Bristow.

Paternal grandparents are Raymond and Mari Jo Chuckluck of Owasso.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Burtis Wilmott Bible and Billie Scott and the late John Ellis Scott.

They are members of the New Tulsa Ceremonial Ground and of the Beaver Clan.

Yahola Scott Sanders

OKMULGEE— Yahola Scott Sanders was born Sept. 5 at Okmulgee Memorial hospital to Melissa Pigeon and Virgil Sanders of Okmulgee.

He weighed 9 pounds and 1.5 ounces and was 21 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Glenda Washington and Allen Dailey of Okmulgee and Walter and Shirley Pigeon of Okemah.

Paternal grandparents are Edna Fixico and Kenneth Tiger of Okmulgee and Virgil Sanders, Sr. of Choctaw.

He is a member of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

Yahola has one sister, Taiah and two brothers, Mateo & Tafv.

Sanders

Josiah Thomas Benjamin McPerryman

ADA— Josiah Thomas Benjamin McPerryman was born Sept. 23 at Carl Albert Hospital to Ernest and Lenora McPerryman of Wetumka.

He weighed 8 pounds and 3 ounces and was 19.8 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Thomas and Phyllis Yahola and Pinky Yahola of Wetumka.

Paternal grandfather is Leon McPerryman of Holdenville.

He has one sister Uriah.

McPerryman

Yaquin Sinnie Harjo

OKMULGEE — Yaquin Sinnie Harjo was born Oct. 7 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Dawn Thompson and Terrence Harjo.

She weighed 6 pounds and 8 ounces and was 19.4 inches in length

Maternal grandparents are Carlin and Juanita Thompson of Mounds.

Paternal grandparents are Jim and Nettie Harjo Jr. of Okmulgee.

Maternal great grandparents are July and the late Mae Tulsa of Mounds and Emily Dickerson and the late Fred Thompson of Ada.

Harjo

Paternal great grandparents are the late Jim B. and Lena Wind Harjo Sr. of Wetumka and the late George and Stella Halley Coser of Okmulgee.

She is a member of the Deer Clan and belong to the Lokvpokv Tribal Town.

Birthdays

Sapulpa boy celebrates fourth birthday

SAPULPA— Johnathan Whitehead celebrated his fourth birthday on Sept. 26 with a spiderman theme.

He is the son of Esteban Whitehead and Lori Fraizer of Sapulpa.

Maternal grandmother is Sue Fraizer of Kelleyville.

Paternal grandparents are Sharon and Steve Whitehead of Sapulpa.

Johnathon has one brother, Chris Fraizer.

Whitehe

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Veteran Spotlight

Creek woman honored as veteran of the year

by Gerald Wofford

Muscogee (Creek) Citizen Sarah Baker is one patriotic lady. The 14,489 military women residing in the State of Oklahoma think so too. On November 1, which was proclaimed by Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry as Oklahoma Women's Veterans Day, Baker was honored as the Oklahoma Woman Veteran of the Year. Baker served in the Marine Corps during World War II. She served specifically in the Women's Auxiliary Corps (WAC).

Ever since she saw her brother John's Army uniform, it has always been Baker's dream to serve in the military.

"My brother was home from leave," Baker said. "I saw his uniform and I had to put it on! He got so mad at me because he had shined the buttons on it and he could see my fingerprints on them," she laughs.

Later, Baker's brother would fight in the Battle of the Bulge in the forests of Belgium. During the historic battle, he would be taken prisoner by the German Army, but would return home safely.

The day after she graduated from high school, Baker immediately went to the local military draft board to sign up for active duty. But she was denied because of her age. "In those days, you had to be 21 to enter service if you were a woman," she says, "and have the permission from both parents."

At the time, Baker's mother, Lena McFarland Gordon, was the only living parent. Lena's husband, Homer Gordon, had died in 1933 of cancer. "There were eight of us kids when Dad died," Baker recalls. "And Mom was blind, so she couldn't do too much back then."

The great depression of the 1930's would hit everyone hard, especially the Bakers. "Dad was a farmer, and when he died," she said. "Well, we kids were just too young to be running a farm and he had taken a loan out of the local bank. We just couldn't pay it back and the payments were way overdue. So the bank had to foreclose on the farm."

Baker's mom still had a family to feed, but how she was going to do it she wasn't sure. Back then they didn't have welfare. A local businessman approached Baker's mother and said she need to feed her kids. He asked her what she thought about bootlegging for him.

"Liquor was illegal back then, but people would find ways to sell it anyway," recalls Baker." A *moonshiner* was someone who made the liquor, a *bootlegger* was someone who sold it. Mother said she didn't think she could do it, but the man said you can if you have your kids find empty bottles. He said he would even loan mom some money."

So before long her family was looking for old bottles. They would find them, clean the bottles up and wait for someone to arrive with the liquor so they could bottle it up and distribute it.

"We started having a little money then," recalls Baker. "You could buy a lot of flour for 79 cents back then. You can make a lot of bread and gravy from that too," Baker laughs, "It was a godsend, but it was unlawful."

Eventually the law did find out about the Baker's family business venture. "The police came to take my Mom," said Baker. "But she said she wasn't gonna go anywhere without her kids. If you are gonna take me, you are going to have to take my kids too! She wouldn't go, so the police just let her stay."

Pictured above is Baker during boot camp.

As the 1930's turned to the 1940's, Baker found herself out of high school, wanting to join the marines. She could have joined earlier in other military branches, but waited until the Marines would allow women to serve in their military. Eventually, Baker and her friend, Nettie Scott, would find employment in Dallas, Texas at the civil service department as bomb inspectors. It was now new years day of 1944, the war would be over in a year. Baker was still a teenager and still desired to serve in the Marines. As Baker and Scott went walking that new years day, they noticed a poster that encouraged women to join the military — all branches of the military.

"So I decided to try again," said Baker. "But they said I still needed a birth certificate that said I was 21. But the boss that Nettie and I were working for had told us if we ever needed anything notarized that he could do it for us because he was a notary public. So the very next day, I saw him and told him I've got something for you to notarize for me!"

Baker had a statement notarized that said she was 21. She would still have to wait for an official birth certificate from Oklahoma City, but eventually got one in June that stated she was 21. She immediately went to the local draftboard and signed up for the Marine Corps. Now the young Creek teenager was fulfilling her dream, she was a marine!

"And what do you think they (marines) had me doing," asks Baker. "Are you ready for this. I was a truck driver on a marine base. Other women and I in the service would haul garbage off the base," she laughs. "But it did free up the men to go to combat duty. We were doing our part."

Baker and other women who had joined like her would only be able to serve in the military for the duration of the war. In September of 1945, World War II was over and Baker had to leave the military. In 1949, the U.S. Congress finally passed a law for women to officially enlist in the military for as long as they desired. Baker wanted to reenlist, but was married and pregnant. "I balled like a baby," she said.

Home builders association holds annual Christmas party for Ryal School

Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. *Matthew 18: 4 & 5*

For over 30 years, the tiny school of Ryal has been blessed by the Home Builders Association of Greater Tulsa. Every Christmas season, the school, which is predominantly made up of Muscogee (Creek) children, is invited to partake in a day of food, fun, and gift-receiving, all paid for by the Association and its members.

Members of the association are asked to sponsor a child for a day and allow them to Christmas shop. This year 80 children from the Ryal School District were bussed in to Tulsa and met the sponsors at Wal-Mart, located at 41st and Memorial. As the children come down the steps from the bus, sponsors selected a child and took them into the store to shop.

"Every year the kids enjoy it more and more," said Louis Hicks, Principal of Ryal Schools, "The kids want to know on the first day of school when are we going to Homebuilders."

Sponsor Art Allitizer helps Ryal Student Alandra McNac with shopping.
photo by Gerald Wofford

Hicks has been with the school for 19 years, and sees how much this event has blessed the school children. "Every year I don't know how they (Homebuilders) do it. But I do tell the kids to be thankful and let them know they are thankful. And they do."

Even former students like Lucas Taylor still have fond memories of this special day. "I was so excited that I would count down the days until we were going to Tulsa and the Home Builders for Christmas time," said Taylor. "I would even wear my school clothes to bed the night before, so I wouldn't miss the bus to school that day. We knew it was going to be a fun day."

Olen Creekmore, left, and Jerry Eiser look at tools donated to Ryal School from the Tulsa Home Builders Association. *photo submitted*

Even for the kids of today, the excited feeling hasn't changed. "I got a power ranger, hot wheels, a spider ball, and a cowboy hat!" said Emmanuel Fry. Fry's sponsor, Kevin Hardcastle, is involved with the project for the first time and loves seeing the joy this event gives the kids. "It very rewarding to do this for the kids, I don't have any children myself, so its extra special."

Linda Burno, a teacher at Ryal Schools knows how extra special this is for the children. "For some of the children this is the only Christmas they will have this year."

Joshua K. Fowler, Executive Vice President of the Home Builders Association shares some insight on how this special day all started.

"The event actually grew out of a partnership with Home Builders and World Changers, an organization that sponsored Ryal children and their needs. Mr. Olen Creekmore, who was President of the Home Builders at the time, eventually took the event over and it has continued to be an annual success ever since."

Fowler mentions that in the beginning Creekmore and associates would come to Ryal bringing gifts for every student. Later, they took the kids shopping at a Dillard's store in Tulsa. For the past 20 years Wal-Mart has been the shopping place for the Ryal Students.

On this special day, after the shopping has been done, a brief stop at the Wal-Mart snack shop and some Christmas caroling is in order for each child, sponsor, and teacher. Before the children leave the store, Wal-Mart employees hand out Christmas candy to each child as they leave the store. After the kids board the bus, they are off to the Homebuilders Association located at East 43rd Street to partake in pizza, games, fun with Huffy the Clown, and of course, the jolly old fat man in the red suit. Today, Santa is not a solo act, but has brought Mrs. Claus and one member of his reindeer team along for pictures and fun. After every child had their picture taken with Santa and company, they're given an extra gift, courtesy of old St. Nick.

Sponsor Matt Ackennauser and Hunter Harjo look at video games. *photo by Gerald Wofford*

With visions of more than sugar plums dancing in their heads, the children of Ryal will return home with toys, candy, and wonderful memories that will last a lifetime.

Ryal School History

Ryal School, located in the Northwest corner of McIntosh County, is approximately seven miles Southeast of Henryetta, Oklahoma. This rural community, named after Bunn Ryal, lies nestled in a small valley with the North Canadian River flowing a few miles to the South and Tiger Mountain rising several miles to the East. The community's namesake, Bunn Ryal, a farmer and carpenter, came to this community in 1888. Employed by the Dawes Commission in the late 1800's, he held a position as Justice of the Peace. He married Annie Gray, a full blood Creek, who assisted as an interpreter for the Creek students in the community and school. Both were active in community affairs. Because of his overwhelming interest in community service, the people named their community and school, "Ryal."

Ryal School began in 1911, with a small shed type building constructed for the education of white students of the community. The school burned the following year, and in 1913 a small two-room building replaced the original school. The district constructed a teacherage in the autumn of 1919. Later that winter there was the addition of the stage and entry hall to the school. The year 1956 brought about the addition of the one room Yardeka Day School and its thirty Indian students. The new gymnasium, constructed in 1972, preceded the construction of the brick building in 1978. Two years later, in 1980, the district constructed three additional classrooms adjacent to the gymnasium. A concession area, four rest rooms, a shop class and a computer lab added to the growth of the existing gymnasium in 1983. The construction of the bus barn, home economics classroom and library reached completion in 1986.

Ryal School

The small shed type building, constructed for the education of white students of the community 86 years ago, now educates primarily Native Americans. Today seventy-five percent of the student body are Creek Indians. Although many changes have been made over the years. Ryal School still serves its small, rural community.

Dewar native receives music video award

MILWAUKEE — Julian Watson received a award for Best Music Video at the Milwaukee Indian Summer Film Festival 2003. The award was presented by Native American actress Irene Bedard and singer/songwriter Jimmy Buffet for Watson's video, "My Moccasins."

Prior to the award presentation, Watson performed on stage with the video showing in the background.

"For the first time shooting a video I think it came out good," stated Julian B, Watson's stage name. "Since then we've shot another goot one and plan for more in the future. It is a little weird to get used to but when you see play backs of that you can do and what the frames and camera will bring out, the two worlds compliment each other."

Pictured above, from left to right are: Julian B; All Natural Pawnee; Irene Bedard; and Dale Waseta.

The video is being used in his concerts as visuals. It is in regular rotation on the free speech channel and will be shown on *World Link's World Music Segments* very soon.

Recently Julian B gave a performance to the Dewar School student body at Dewar gymnasium honoring Native American month. He also was the opening act for *Sam and the Stylees*' CD release party at the Venue in Tulsa.

In October he was one the acts performing for the Intertribal concert at Seminole. After his involvement in the concert, he started researching the history about the Oklahoma Land Run. Being committed to Indian causes, especially of his own tribe, he would like to see a concert of this nature in the Okmulgee area. He envisions a joint effort with the other tribes, such as the Five civilized tribes of Oklahoma, Creek, Seminole, Cherokee, Chickasaw, and Choctaw. He feels other tribal members may have the same thoughts about the need for awareness about the anniversary of the Oklahoma Land Run.

Julian B will be back on the road in late January for scheduled performances in Arizona, Nebraska and Ohio. He has tentative plans to organize a concert in Okmulgee along with Muscogee (Creek) Nation Johnson O' Malley Program. He plans to be more involved with the youth activities in and around the Creek Nation boundaries.

For more information or for bookings contact Julian at (918) 853-4678 or e-mail:redolution@hotmail.com.

Creek band performs in benefit concert to help area youth

TULSA—As the temperature drops, some area children will be forced to endure the bitter cold weather without proper winter clothing. Oklahoma Native American Business Development Center and Native American Employment and Training Center partnered together to host a benefit concert and coat drive at the Venue to benefit area Native American children.

Pictured above, from left to right are: Will Streight; Kenny Cheek; James Young; Andy Livesay; Barney Ingram; Dennis Dowell; and T.J. Green.

photo by Ruth Bible

Spaghetti Warehouse catered the event, while Creek citizen *Barney Ingram & Medicine Pony* provided the musical entertainment.

"The best thing about the event it was that different communities and different organizations that came together," said Ingram. The event was declared a success because the projected amount was raised.

Tribal citizen T.J. Green, Deputy Director of the Native American Employment & Training Center, felt there was certainly a need.

"Our center sees a lot of under-served Native American who are on hard times," stated Green. "The unemployment rate is at an all time high. Last year our center interviewed an estimated 1100 who came in seeking employment, this year the amount doubled."

For more information about the Native American Employment and Training Center or Oklahoma Native American Business Development Center contact; T.J. Green or Dennis Dowell at (918) 532-1113.

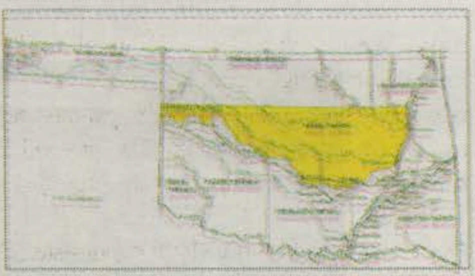
Alliance hosts intertribal concert

SEMINOLE — Intertribal Alliance for Truth recently hosted a intertribal concert at the Mekusukey Mission. Intertribal Alliance for Truth is a grass roots organization formed in response to the Oklahoma Land Run of 1889 and the monument being erected in Oklahoma City, near the Bricktown canal.

This monument will honor the series of land runs that established the state of Oklahoma. It will consist of 38 pieces after being reduced from 45 due to a state bond rejection because it was found unconstitutional by the Oklahoma Supreme Court. It will be the largest bronze monument in the world.

In the 1830 Indian Removal Act President Andrew Jackson promised Oklahoma territory to the Five Civilized Tribes and their descendents *"for as long as the grass grows and the water runs"*. Due to some Native Americans fighting for the Confederate Army during the civil war in 1889, newly elected President Benjamin Harrison's issued a proclamation concerning settlement of the unassigned lands. At noon on April 22, 1889 eligible persons were authorized to enter the district. Opening of the land to white settlers leading to the first of a series of land runs in Indian territory. Although the land run is generally viewed as a time of historical significance and celebration by many state leaders and institutions, it represents an era that will continue in the annals of Native American History as a time of infamy.

The Intertribal Alliance for Truth would like the accurate history of the monument to be told, as well as speak out against the use of taxpayer money for such offensive monuments. According to Joyce Bear, Cultural Preservation Manager, the Muscogee people were affected by the land run. The Indian territory of 1830 shows the Creek and Seminole land was north of the South Canadian river from the Grand River to the Texas/Oklahoma Panhandle (see map).



The concert was to raise awareness among Native Americans and nonnatives on accurate Oklahoma History. Some Native American groups performed at the concert, such as Muscogee citizens Julian B, *Barney Ingram & Medicine Pony*. George Tiger served as master of ceremonies.

Several Intertribal members and individuals from all over Oklahoma have already committed to the next concert. For more information about the Intertribal Alliance for truth organization, email: intertribalalliance@yahoo.com or contact Rhonda Lowe at: rkiclowe@aol.com.

BESSIE BELL

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Bessie Elizabeth Bell were held Nov. 10 at Arbeka Methodist Church.

Bell was born October 11, 1915 in Okemah to the late Mitchell and Martha Harjo Heneha.

She married Robert Austin Bell. Bessie was a healthcare worker and a Methodist.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; husband; four sisters; and a brother.

Survivors include: children, George of Okmulgee, Ramona Tanner, Becky Thompson, and Charles Bell, all of Tulsa, and Liz Record of Coweta; seven grandchildren; and twelve great-grandchildren.

Interment was at the Harjo-Manley Cemetery.

LUCY BIGPOND

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Lucy James Bigpond were held September 22 at Schumacher Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Jerry Byrd and Rev. Rachael Boyiddle officiating.

She was born on September 27, 1907 in Hanna, Oklahoma to Gibson and Sukey Lasley James.

Lucy lived in Bristow most all of her life except for a twenty year period in California before 1957, which was when she returned to Oklahoma.

Bigpond was a member of Choska Methodist Church and the W.M.U. there. She loved church work and sewing, and enjoyed her grandchildren and singing creek hymns.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Kessler Bigpond Sr; one daughter, Cecelia; and two brothers.

Survivors include: four sons, David of Bristow, Ethan of Okmulgee, Kessler Jr. of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Wendell of Sapulpa; seventeen grandchildren; thirty great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Interment was at Magnolia Memorial Gardens in Bristow.

GAINES BUNNY

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Gaines R. Bunny were held at Smith Funeral Home with Reverend Larry Grisson officiating.

He was born in Henryetta to James and Lucille Bunny. Bunny was of the Bird Clan and a member of Eufaula-Canadian tribal town.

Gaines was employed with the Creek Nation Lighthorse for nine years working at the Creek Nation Tulsa Bingo. He served six years with the National Guard, and he was a graduate of Henryetta High School.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; nephew, Jeffery Ingram; maternal grandparents, Rev. Jim and Bettie Phillips Smith; and paternal grandparents, George and Sallie Benson Bunny.

Survivors include: wife, Martha; four sisters, Margo Smith of St. Simons Island, Georgia, Elizabeth Ingram of Dewar, Roselyn Bunny of Tulsa, and Marion Frye of Del City; two brothers, Durango of Urbana, Illinois and Robert Mendoza of Maine; stepson; one uncle; one aunt; twenty-one nieces and nephews and nine great nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were: Michael W. and Johnny Frye Jr.; James Ingram; Robert D. Mendoza; Jasper Bruner; and Ben LaFontaine. Honorary pallbearers were: Newman Bunny; Bobby W. and Johnny Frye Sr.; and Scott Shadowens.

Arbeka Methodist Church celebrates 119 years

OKEMAH — On October 26, Arbeka United Methodist Church, located eight miles west of Okemah, celebrated 119 years of service. The church has approximately 30 active members.

The church began in 1884 at the house of Masene Frank and was located three miles south of the present church location. Rev. Jacob Knight and Rev. Tingo Frank, the son of Masene, began preaching regularly at the home. Rev. Thomas Little came a short time later and began doing all the preaching. Under his guidance and teachings, the people in the Arbeka community all accepted the Christian religion. It was then that Arbeka Church had its beginning as a Methodist Church.

Arbeka United Methodist Church

Sunday's activities began with morning worship at 10:30 a.m. Juanita McGirt read the church history and Bishop Bruce Blake, bishop for the United Methodist Indian Conference Churches in this region, gave the morning prayer service.

The church set aside some time for people to reflect and remember their memories of Arbeka Church. Rev. Alvin Deere, Rev. Carol Walker, and Billy McKane were some of the people that remembered growing up at Arbeka Church.

FRANCIS FIELD

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Francis Harjo Field were held November 3 at Greenleaf Missionary Baptist Church with Brother Bill Coon officiating.

She was born December 18, 1936 in Cromwell to Earnest and Ola Mae Wesley Harjo. Francis lived in the Okemah-Cromwell area until her late 20's and attended Butner Schools.

Field was married to Solomon Field who preceded her in death on February 19, 2001.

Francis was a cook and employed by Holiday Inn in Oklahoma City. She enjoyed watching baseball, cooking, going to church and especially loved to her family.

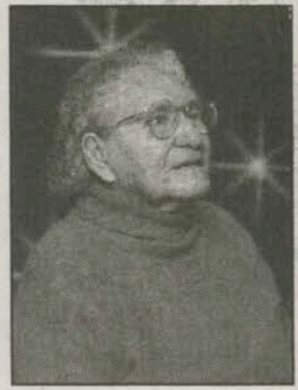
Preceding her in death were: her husband; two brothers, Pat and Bob Harjo; and grandson, Dante Winslett.

Survivors include: son, Daryl Field of Del City; two daughters, Martha Harjo of Arcadia and Deanna Field of Witchita, Kansas; two brothers, John L. of Arcadia and Frank Harjo of Shawnee; four sisters, Bertha Sands of Castle, Carolyn Perkins of Arcadia, Lois of Wellston and Ruth Harjo of Arcadia; eight grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and a host of other family and friends.

Interment was at Greenleaf Cemetery.

LOLA HARDRIDGE

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Lola Hardridge were held October 28 at Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church with Rev. Bill Foote officiating.


Hardridge

She was born in the Kellyville community and lived ninety-three years there. Lola was the daughter of Willie and Nannie Littlehead Fulsom. She was married to Tom Hardridge.

Hardridge was an active member of Pickett Chapel Methodist Church. She was one of the oldest full-blood Euchee tribal members.

Lola attended Euchee Mission and Chilocco Indian School.

Preceding her in death were: two sons, Tommy Gerald and William Lloyd; daughter, Shirley Brown; and sister, Annie Hardridge.

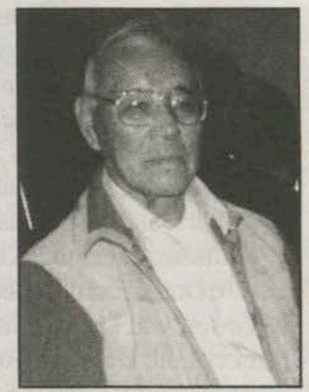
Survivors include: five daughters, Betty Jones of the home, Helen Jones of Ft. Worth, Texas, Joyce Johnson, Bea Buckley and Barbara Tiger, of Kellyville; thirty-three grandchildren; seventy-two great-grandchildren; and sixty-six great-great-grandchildren; brother, Lee Fulsom of Liberty Mounds; a host of friends and loved ones; and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers include: Ed and Jack Buckley; Darrell and Terry Jones; Terry Toppah; and Delbert Dunn. Honorary pallbearers were: Joe Buchanan; Kenneth Johnson; Mike Killingsworth; Vanis and Gary Dunn; and Ronnie Brown.

Interment was at the Hardridge Family Cemetery in Kellyville.

SAM MITCHELL

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Sam P. Mitchell were held September 1 at Sand Creek Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Mitchell Taylor and Rev. Allison Phillips officiating.


Mitchell

He was born January 26, 1921 in Lamar to Simon Silla and Betty Williams Mitchell.

Sam moved as a child with his family to Trenton, near Hanna, Oklahoma. It was there he was raised and attended school. As a young man he was married to Elouise Scott in Oklahoma City. They made their home there for many years while he worked for Thomas Concrete, and later spent over twenty years working with Fairlawn Cemetery. Following his retirement in the late 1970's, they relocated to Hughes County, settling east of Wetumka.

Mitchell is remembered as a faithful church worker. He was a former member of the Hillabee Indian Baptist Church

please see **MITCHELL**..., page 10

Mitchell

continued from page 9

near Hanna where he served in many positions and held many offices. He was also an ordained deacon. Most recently he was a member of the Alabama Coushatta Indian Baptist Church.

Preceding him in death were: daughter, Alpha Jean Barnes; son, Frank Mitchell; and three brothers, Albert and Jimmy Mitchell, and Henry McNac.

Survivors include: his wife; three sons, Simon, Ray, and Jimmy Mitchell, all of Del City; eight grandchildren; two brothers, Johnny of Shawnee and Josie Mitchell of Oklahoma City; four sisters, Hannah Tiger and Martha Ned of Oklahoma City, Nellie West of Weleetka, and Mary Davis of Wichita Falls, Texas; along with several great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives, and many friends.

Pallbearers were: Roley Frye; Steve Randall; Barton Looney; Wallace Gambler; Ricky Soweka; Darrell and Dan Coachman; and Jacob Lewis, all are ordained deacons.

Interment was at the Wetumka Cemetery.

BETTIE REED

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Bettie Reed were held November 20 at the Holdenville Creek Indian Community Center with Deacon Dave Bowlegs officiating.

She was born June 6, 1916 in Hughes County to Andrew & Lucy Tea Reed.

Betty enjoyed life. She was blessed with a rare sense of humor and an infectious giggle. It gave her pleasure, and took her only a moment, to make people laugh at some silly joke or preposterous statement. Reed loved everything; her home at Little River, her cats and dogs, her native dances, quilting, particularly her family and friends. She was a Native Mvskoke speaker and elder; Sweet Potato clan and from the New Tulsa Ceremonial Ground.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; and two brothers, Thompson Harjo and Charlie Baker.

Survivors include: one niece; one great-nephew; special family members, Delois Dunzy Roulston, Maggie Bruner Stephens, Anna Jacobs King, Minnie Franks Gouge, Smiley Barnett, and Johnny Franks; friends and neighbors; and numerous other relatives.

Pallbearers include: Kevin Fisher; Dane Ford; James Leach; Doug Scott; Bobby Cargill; Charlie Franks; Bill Robinson; and Louis Bruner. Honorary pallbearers were: Mickey Hill; Dempsey Roulston; Smiley Barnett; Felix Gouge; Johnny Franks; Sam Paylor; and Julius Conley.

Interment was at Holdenville Cemetery.

MARY RIPPY

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Mary Gertrude LaValley Rippy were held September 30 at Wetumka Cemetery with Rev. Frank Moppin officiating.

She was born October 5, 1913 to Conley and Rosa Winters LaValley in Wetumka where she was also reared.

Mary married Roy Rippy on September 30, 1933 in Wetumka.

Rippy worked as a "Rosie the Riveter" during World War II, building ships in Richmond, California. She was a homemaker who had all the survival skills that the 1930's depression forged. Mary made lye soap, canned and dried foods, made quilts and clothes, picked cotton and washed on a rub board.

She was a descendent of Tuskugee tribal town and Turtle clan.

Preceding her in death were: her parents; husband, Roy Rippy; two brothers, William Soloman and Clyde Lawton LaValley; and two sisters, Lottie Eula Harris and Rosa Irene Wheeler.

Survivors include: three daughters, Connie Davis of Joplin, Missouri, Ramona Anderson of Oklahoma City, and Naoma Eisenbee of Wewoka; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Interment was at Wetumka Cemetery.

PINK RUMSEY

STIDHAM — Funeral services for Pink Rumsey were held October 14, 2003 at Stidham Baptist Church with Rev. Gary Hawkins officiating and Rev. Gene Cook assisting.

Pink was born May 12, 1900 to Pink and Lou Hawkins Rumsey at Stidham. He was a retired farmer. Pink always said his favorite thing to do was work. He loved it.

Rumsey's church affiliation was with the Little Coweta Baptist Church. Pink was also a member of the Centenarian Club of Oklahoma.

He married Lillie on August 4, 1919 at Fame, Oklahoma.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; wife, Lillie; two brothers, Mitchell and Boney; sister, Jenney Jones; sons, Jack and Raymond; and a daughter, Ruth.

Survivors include: son, Jon of Newcastle; daughter, Louise McIntosh of Stidham; eight grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Interment was at the Rumsey Family Cemetery.

REV. JOE SMITH

CASTLE — Funeral services for Rev. Joe Smith were held October 30 at Prairie Spring Indian Baptist Church.

He was born August 27, 1919 in Okemah to Malley Ahfonoke and Jim Smith.

Joe joined the Army in December 1941 just before "Pearl Harbor." In January 1942, he was sent to Germany. He served three years and nine months in World War II as a machine gun operator with the 52nd Battalion and with the 603 Tank Destroyer Battalion. Smith received several honors for his service and Medal for his bravery.

He was ordained as Pastor of Prairie Spring Indian Baptist Church in 1969.

Preceding him in death were: his wife, Jeanette Fixico Smith; parents; and two brothers, Jose and Eddie Smith.

Survivors include: Captain of Wolfe, Randolph of Paden, and Jason Smith of Castle; two daughters, Betty of Castle and Gale Smith of Shawnee; brother, Sam Cooper of Castle; eight grandson's; three granddaughter's; five great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

DARLENE TATE

SAPULPA — Funeral services for Darlene Tate were held October 7 at Smith Funeral Home.

She was born November 29, 1949 in Bristow to Noah and Irene Parkinson.

Tate graduated from Northeastern State University in 1978. She married John W. Tate in March 1983.

Darlene spent most of her career as a social worker at DHS.

She was a member of Pickett Methodist Church.

Tate was preceded in death by her father.

Survivors include: three children, Jeff, Jennifer, and John "Sonny"; sister, Joyce Reynolds; and her mother.

Interment was at the family's cemetery south of Depew.

Gratitude

Our family wishes to extend our deepest gratitude to many friends, relatives, communities, tribes and organizations during the recent passing of our loved one. Sharon "Bubbles" Lewis, aka Sharon Harjo was laid to rest at her home in the Salem Community. Our family was greatly comforted by the many calls, visits, gifts, flowers and prayers during this tragic time. Bubbles had many friends and was dearly loved by her family. Her passing leaves such emptiness in our lives, but we cherish the time we had with her.

Words cannot express how much we appreciate the Muscogee Creek Nation and the services they provided to our family. We especially thank Rev. George Christy, Robert Simons Funeral Home and his wonderful staff, Emma Brunner and the Yardeka Indian Baptist Church, Winnie Gipson James, pall bearers — Ray Barnett, Phillip Williams, Robert Fields Jr., Thomas Harders, Jefferey and Richard Lewis and the Wagoner Hospital Staff.

There was a great outpouring of love and caring for our family by many people. Thank you so very much for showing Bubbles and all of us how much you cared. God Bless All of You.

Sharon "Bubbles" Lewis Family

Religion

Methodist Church to hold prayer service

WETUMKA — Salt Creek United Methodist Church will host an "Afternoon for Unity and Prayers for Peace" on Sunday, January 18, 2004 starting at 2:00 p.m. The service is dedicated to our men and women in the Armed Services. Through Unity and Prayers, our service men and women will know that we support them and they will not be forgotten. Everybody welcome.

The church is requesting names, addresses, and pictures of our men and women; care packages will be sent to them.

Salt Creek is located from Holdenville, eight miles north on Highway 48, two miles east, and from Wetumka, seven miles west on Highway 9, two miles south on Highway 48. Signs will be posted.

Happy Holidays
from the Staff of
Creek Council House Museum

National Council Staff

As we enter the season of thanksgiving, let us not forget the reason for this occasion, the many blessings that have been bestowed upon us, as an individual and as a Nation.

As we gather with our families for the giving of gifts and sharing a meal, let us not forget the less fortunate and those on foreign soils whose duties and dedication provide us this freedom.

The staff of the National Council and myself wish you and your family a "Merry Christmas" and a safe and "Happy New Year."

Wilbur Gouge, Speaker
Muscogee (Creek) National Council

Shop talk with Gerald

Anyone that is not living under a rock certainly knows about the success of the Oklahoma Sooners football team this year. The Sooners are looking quite impressive, to say the least, as they go for a possible National Championship.

Muscogee (Creek) Citizen Matt McCoy has enjoyed the fruits of the teams success while adding his own talents as well. Although McCoy's primary duties have been place holder and backup defender in the secondary, he has had his moments this year, including an interception against Baylor and involved in numerous tackles on the kickoff team. The season is also a memorable for the young business management major since this is his final season as a Sooner.

It seems as though the first annual *Warrior's Showcase Shoot-out All-Indian Basketball Tournament* held at the Dewar Gymnasium on Thanksgiving weekend was a total success. The two day event, which showcased area Indian youth ages seven and eight, nine to 11, and 12 to 14 years old. Lucas Taylor, manager of the Creek Nation Communications and Coordinator of the event was pleased with the participation from all the young Indian athletes, and surrounding fans as well. "We would like to thank everyone who helped make this work," said Taylor. The teams not only put on an exciting round of games for the pleased crowd, but the young cagers were given a speech by Creek citizen O.J. King. King pitches for the Major League Baseball Class A Dayton Dragons in Ohio. O.J. spoke to the audience about what it takes to succeed, as well as sign autographs. The tournament was sponsored by the Muscgoee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Prevention Program and the Dreamcatchers Organization. Of all the people Taylor thanked, he wanted to give a special thanks to Dewar High School Head Girls Basketball Coach Todd Been. "He was the only coach in the area that was willing to help us," said Taylor. "By securing all the facilities for us and his support, he helped make our first annual tournament a success."

Taylor tells everyone to be on the look out for a possible High School All-Indian March Madness Tournament, if you would like more information contact Taylor at (918) 732-7634.

If you have noticed, we here at the *MNN* sports department have been reporting a lot on Creek softball athletes. The reason is that mainly Creek softball athletes and their families have been submitting the *MNN* the only information and leads on story requests. It is certainly our desire to report on each and every Creek athlete that is an enrolled tribal citizen that participates and excels in a sports activity. If there is a Creek athlete that excels in athletics contact us and we will do a feature article in the *MNN*. *Thanks* again for your support of the *MNN*.

Chief Beaver enjoyed success as an athlete

OKMULGEE — The reign of Chief R. Perry Beaver has been a unique one. Preparing to end his second four-year term as Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Chief Beaver can certainly look back on an interesting political career. But since this is a sports page, the *MNN* wanted to take a look back at the unique sports career of the third tribally elected Muscogee (Creek) Chief in modern times.

Growing up as a country boy near the small town of Morris, Beaver played in many activities as a child, but his heart was always into football. "There was a lot of Indian boys that lived close together and we would all play ball", he said.

As Beaver entered High School, he would naturally take on the competition on the gridiron. His senior team would make the state finals, only to lose to Thomas 20-19.

The position of offensive lineman is considered by some to be the most physically demanding on a football team. To constantly start and stop, block out opposing players and sometimes run down the field to do more of the above.

Coach Beaver and his sons.

Beaver was an offensive and defensive lineman. He would receive an athletic scholarship to play football at Murray Junior College in Tishomingo. Beaver would become a Junior College All-American and then move on to Northeast Louisiana State University. Beaver remembers the Louisiana team as being one of the smallest colleges in the Nation. "We were in the Gulf Coast Conference and were considered division I-A."

Beaver wasn't quite finished with football just yet. The Green Bay Packers of the National Football League (NFL) was interested in the services of Beaver. The Packers were coached by none other than the legendary Vince Lombardi.

"He (Lombardi) was something else," said Beaver. "He would command respect, he was quite the leader."

A recurring knee injury would keep Beaver from making the team and a legendary Packer roster, which included the likes of: Paul Hornung, Jim Taylor, Bart Starr, and Ray Nitschke.

Beaver's playing days may have been over, but his passion for the game was not. As Beaver was playing the game, he was also learning to coach. He had received a degree in physical education and was prepared to enter the field of coaching. His first and only job would be with the Jenks School System. Beaver would eventually become the head football coach at Jenks in 1977 and would go on to win two state championships in 1979 and 1982. "Football has always been something that I have enjoyed," said Beaver."

Edmond Memorial pitcher earns athletic scholarship

EDMOND — The *screw-ball* can be one of the most unique, difficult, and entertaining pitches to throw in women's fastpitch softball. Male athletes who throw baseballs may say its difficult enough just throwing an overhanded screw-ball. But to do it underhanded, which is how it is done in the Women's sport is something Gloria Jobe has not only made a part of her pitching rotation, but also an art-form.

"I like throwing the screw-ball, and watching how it works," said Gloria. "The batters will see the ball coming toward them and then suddenly the ball will turn inside toward the catcher's glove. It sometimes will cause the batter to quickly move out of the batter's box and then the umpire will call a strike."

Jobe

Jobe also throws the curve, change-up, and other traditional pitches as well. Her repertoire on the mound last year gained her a fifty game winning streak with a team Jobe plays with in the summer called the Oklahoma Phillies.

The Creek girl has always been serious about this sport. So serious that she transferred her sophomore season from Perkins-Tryon and enrolled at Edmond Memorial High School and hired a personal pitching coach. Edmond Memorial is a 6A class school, one of the largest in the state. Jobe saw the switch as a chance to compete against a larger talent pool and to be challenged against other athletes in the state as well. "I wanted to play in a program that is very serious about the game," said Jobe.

The move did prove successful for Jobe, finishing her high school career at 61 wins and 30 losses, Jobe would catch the attention of Washburn University in Kansas. On November 18, Jobe signed a National letter of intent with the school to play softball. Jobe looks forward to the move to college ball," said Jobe.

She plans on pursuing a degree in physical education. Jobe also plans to attend an Olympic tryout for the U.S. Women's Softball Team in the future.